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Riblet, Clarence E.

A historical sketch of the
Riblets

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A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE RIBLETS

collected and compiled by

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A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE RIBLETS.

In recent years there is found among our people an interest in the story of our ancestors, with a desire to go back as far as possible into the remote past. We regret that so little, by way of tradition, has been handed down to us by our forefathers; but there is some satisfaction in obtaining additional information from County Histories, State Archives and Historical Societies.

Previous to the time near the year 1670 everything is lost in the unknown past. About this time we begin, strange as it may seem, with a piece of land containing approximately between eight and nine acres. This is located in the quarter of Charonne, Paris (XX) France. This section was not a part of old Paris but was outside the city and was included sometime later. There was, perhaps at that time, a street laid out that derived its name, RIBLETTE, from the ancient owner of the land through which it passes. It is only a short street, length 535.36 feet and 22.96 feet wide. It begins at the street St. Blaise to the southwest and ends at the street of the Balkans towards the northeast. It is not intersected by any other street.

RIBLETTE was most certainly the original spelling of the name we so proudly bear. It is a feminine noun, meaning collop or a thin slice of fried or broiled meat. Scheler believed that RIBLETTE is of the same family as the terms of arts and trades. Riboulet, Ribble, Ribot, Ripley, Ribler and Ribley are different names.

So we begin with the land, the street and the people, whose home, it is fair to believe, was in this place. The same story is related in several branches of the Riblets that our ancestors belonged to the Huguenot Party, for such the Protestants of France were called. On April 13, 1598 Henry LV promulgated the Edict of Nantz which granted certain liberties to the Reformed Movement. This Edict was revoked by Louis XIV on October 18, 1685. Then came a terrible religious persecution and a great many fled for refuge, to other countries. There is a tradition, quite plausible, that the Riblettes were all put to death and their estates were confiscated. Thus the story that we are heirs to an estate in France. However, one boy fifteen years old, born in 1670, was absent from home at the time and escaped to the Palatinate, a protestant state in Germany. This boy, whose first name is not known, married and raised a family of several children. Undoubtedly all the several branches of the Riblets, we know of, now, have come from this boy. One evidence is that the name at first is always spelled R-I-B-L-E-T. This corresponds to the story that when they left France some of the final letters were dropped. However, in late years some have doubled the T and some of those in Johnstown and Conemaugh, Pa. spell the name R-I-B-B-L-E-T and R-I-B-B-L-E-T-T. The late Fernand Riblet of Paris, France (Spending a part of the year in Florence, Italy) wrote, at the beginning of several years correspondence with him, "How surprised I was to find people by my name in America." While as far back as his great grandfather they have lived in France, most likely his earlier ancestor went from Germany back to France and ours came to America. To show that we both had a common ancestor, he not

only spells his name as we do but wrote that his grandmother told him that they had Huguenot ancestors.

It is claimed by some that our ancestors belong to the French Nobility but for evidence and unsuccessful search was made in libraries in Chicago, Illinois and Buffalo, N.Y. Besides a most thorough search was made by a very close friend of a certain Riblet. This friend is a veteran of the First World War. He visited France in 1930. While in Paris he secured the help of two genealogists and also went himself to two libraries where the Standard Works of the Genealogies of the French Nobility are kept; but nowhere could the name be found. One of these French genealogist told this friend that the Huguenots did not have a Coat of Arms.

EMIGRATION.

In 1727 Pennsylvania passed a law requiring the Captain of every vessel to furnish the Chief Magistrate in Philadelphia with the names of all males above sixteen years of age. Then they were required to take the oath of allegiance to the British Crown because they were German citizens. These names are published in the Penn. Archives. For many years past, it was commonly thought that all those in America, bearing the name of Riblet, have descended from only one immigrant, but the Penn. Archives and "The Penn. German Pioneers" give two immigrations, 1733 and 1749. Besides these a few others have come to America in later years.

CHRISTIAN RIBLET.

The first immigrant who came to America bearing our family name was Christian Riblet. The claim was made that he came to Charleston, S.C. in 1735 and afterwards moved north into Md. and then Penn. This story differs from the Penn. Archives in two points only, the port of entry and year. However, it has been recently reported that some Riblets did settle in Charleston, S.C. The name Riblet was seen on a tombstone in the Huguenot cemetery. In the Penn. Archives, 2nd series, Vol. 17, page 86, is a record of the ship Hope of London, England, Daniel Reid master, arrived in Philadelphia, Penn., Aug. 28, 1733. Among the Palatine passengers was Christian Riblet, age 27 years. Thus his birth was in 1706, and was most likely a son of the boy who escaped to the Palatinate. There is no record of Christian Riblet's wife and children but the late Henry M. Riblet of Erie, Penn. says that he brought with him his son Bartholomew six years of age. Jacob Riblet, son of Daniel, Galion, O. gives his name and said he was fourteen years old, but that would not correspond to the positive age of his father. Mrs. Sophia E. Burnett, granddaughter of Michael Riblet, Erie, Penn. wrote that he was eight years old, but even that is not as consistent as that he was six years old. Christian Riblet settled in Northampton Co., Penn.

JACOB, PETER, ABRAHAM RIBLET.

The three males above sixteen years of age, who came in 1749 were, most likely, father and sons, as later taxables in Lancaster indicate: Abraham Riblet, Peter Riblet and widow Riblet. A photostat copy of the names of the German immigrants has been published in "The Penn. German Pioneers". They wrote their names in German. Jacob spelled his name correctly but the other two may not have remembered just how to spell it. However, among Germans certain letters are sometimes interchanged, B and P and D and T. Thus they wrote Hans (JOHN) Bader (Peter) Ribeled (Riblet) and Abraham Ribellet (Riblet)

They settled in Lancaster, Penn. and were the progenitors of the Riblets living in New York, N.Y. and those in West Va. It may be a safe guess that Christian was an older brother of Jacob. Another guess is that they knew each other. When Bartholomew and his son John moved from Northampton Co. Penn. and settled near Hagerstown, Md. they must have gone through Lancaster which was on a direct route. They may have stayed there awhile for a visit, at least, long enough for John's sister Mary Ann and John Zuck, who lived there, to become acquainted. They were married about two years later. John Zuck, Jr. was born Oct. 17, 1790. They moved to Erie Co. Penn. about the same time that John Riblet settled there.

BARTHOLOMEW RIBLET.

He lived in Allen Twp. Northampton Co. Penn. Until he was about sixty years old. He was known in life as Bartley Riblet and married Catharine daughter of Philip Livegood or Livengood, Ger. Leibengut. He was also a Germanized French Huguenot who with other Palatines came to Philadelphia, Sept. 26, 1737. Catharine was born in 1734, her death occurred in 1814, and her remains were laid to rest in the beautiful Erie Cemetery where a tombstone preserves her memory. At the bottom of the stone it says that she had thirteen children, sixty seven grand and greatgrand children. There has been located in Bedford Co. Penn. the settlement, in 1794, of the estate of Bartholomew Riblet. This court house record contains the names of his eight heirs. Here are their names. Excepting Reuben the rest were heirs.

1. MARGARET RIBLET. b 1754? m Michael Kelchiner. The U.S. Census gives one son above sixteen years, two sons under sixteen and two daughters. They lived in Allen Twp. Northampton Co. Pa.
2. JOHN RIBLET. b 1756. He was the progenitor of the Erie Riblets.
3. REUBEN RIBLET. b 1758? He was a Revolutionary soldier taken a prisoner in the Battle of Long Island, Aug. 28, 1776. He died in a vile British prison ship in the presence of a brother (John) who then and there declared that he and no Britisher could ever be friends.
4. CHRISTIAN RIBLET. b Aug. 18, 1761. His descendants live in Galion and Cleveland, O.
5. HENRY RIBLET. b 1763? His posterity live mostly in Youngstown, O.
6. REGENA RIBLET. b 1765? m Robert Smith. They had one son, John b 1785. They lived in Northumberland Co. Pa.
7. MARY ANN RIBLET. b Feb. 13, 1767. m John Zuck. Their descendants live west of Erie, Pa.

8. - - - RIBLET. b 1769? Died in a fort while they were taking refuge from the Indians who caused them trouble many times.
9. ABRAHAM RIBLET. b 1773? His numerous descendants live mostly in Cambria Co. Pa.
10. ELIZABETH RIBLET b 1773. m Henry Swartz. Lived in Wayne Co.O.
11. - - - RIBLET. b 1775. Likely died young.
12. - - - RIBLET. b 1777. - - - - :
13. - - - RIBLET. b 1779. - - - - :

Practically all of the 67 grand and greatgrand children are accounted for except three and they could have been in the families of Frederick Steese and Solomon Repass. In 1787 Bartholomew Riblet, wife and younger children, moved with John and his family to locate near Hagerstown, Md. Bartholomew lived there only a short time. Their home was destroyed by fire and they moved to Hopewell Twp. Bedford Co. Penn., where he died in 1794. Catharine then lived with her son Abraham. About the time of his death, or soon after, she went to live with John in Erie Co.

JOHN RIBLET, Sr.

John Riblet, born in 1756, was a son of Bartholomew Riblet. About 1778 he married Catherine, daughter of Michael Keiper (Kiber). Her father's people were also Germanized French Huguenots and lived in Allen Twp., Northampton County, Pa. They had three sons and two daughters. In 1787 they located near Hagerstown, Md. and moved to Erie County in the spring of 1801. His record as a soldier in the Revolutionary War is in the Pa. Archives, 2nd series, Vol. XIV, page 567. Muster rolls of the first battalion of associatetors in the County of Northampton and Province of Pa., Capt. Nicholas Kern's Co., August 6th, 1776, at Amboy, (N.J.) John Rivalet (Riblet). He was made a prisner on Long Island, Aug. 31, 1776. After being held a little more than four months in New York, N.Y. he was discharged on parole. After remaining at home for two years he was exchanged. On Sept. 1, 1832, he applied for and received a pension.

"In 1801 a large emigration of Pa. Germans came from the old Dutch counties, and took up lands, and they, with their families have been permanent residents here; there can be no better farmers or citizens than the Riblets, Ebersoles, Zucks, Stoughs, Kreiders, Etc." From the Erie Co., Pa. Atlas of 1876.

May 6, 1803, John Riblet bought 206 acres of land on the waters of the Four Mile Creek, one half mile south of Wesleyville. In 1803 he built the first saw mill in the township. No vestige of it remains. In 1815 Wm. Saltzman leased and built a sawmill on this land at the foot of the gulley near the old Cooper mill and added a grist mill in 1826. The heirs of John Riblet sold this land Dec. 1835 to Joseph M. Sterrett who lived there many years and the house became known as the Sterrett house. It was still standing in 1947.

Personnel--John Riblet was of medium height, broad shouldered, well set, robust and active in body and of a jovial cheerful mind. He was prudent and thrify in pecuniary matters, and had accumulated what at the time of his death, was a fair estate. He was intensely American in his ideas, and exceedingly loyal to his

country. He served in the Revolutionary War, pulling through all its trials and privations. He had seen his brother die a prisoner in a loathsome pen, which the English saw fit to call a prison ship, and he had taken into his soul as intense a hatred of everything British that he could not hear to have any reference made to them in his presence. It is a notorious fact that during the war of 1812, when all his sons and relatives were in the Federal Army, himself too old to serve, whenever he would hear the British fleet was off the coast of Erie, he would take down his old trusty rifle, his powder horn, and bullet pouch and make a bee line for the banks of Lake Erie, hoping that it might be his good fortune in his old age to obtain one more shot at the enemy of his youth, and he would sit on the banks of Lake Erie until the British fleet had gone. Had they ever attempted to land at Erie there would have been a sharp shooter lodged in some prominent tree, of which there were many upon the banks of Lake Erie, and from that tree would have sped forth the bullet that would have cost the life of an English soldier as often as the old rifle was discharged. John Riblet had located upon a farm containing more than two hundred acres of land on the waters of the Four Mile Creek, Harbor Creek Township, Erie Co., Pa. there he built for himself a log cabin. He died August 6, 1835.

Soldiers in the War of 1812.

These served in the War of 1812, Pa. Archives, 6th Series, Vol. IX page 656, Michael Riblet, Sergeant and Hugh Cunningham, Sergeant. Page 706 Solomon Riblet, Vol. X page 175, Solomon Riblet, Sergeant; John Zimmerman, Sergeant; John Riblet, Sergeant, also pages 231 and 232.

MICHAEL RIBLET.

He was the oldest son of John Riblet, Sr. and Catharine Keiper. His first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Christian Ebersole; second wife was Hannah, daughter of Nathaniel Walker. On Feb. 28, 1803, Michael Riblet bought his farm which is now within the city of Erie. It was situated between the Buffalo road and 18th street and from Downing Ave. on the east to one half block west of Camphausen Ave. His widow Hannah received a land bounty for his services in the Penn. Militia. He died April 23, 1851.

MRS. CATHARINE ANN (RIBLET) STERRETT.

She was the venerable wife of Judge Sterrett.

On Tuesday evening last Mrs. Catherine Sterrett died at her home in this city in her 84th year. She was born on the 7th of Jan., 1803, the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Ebersole) Riblet. Of her brothers, Jonathan (father of Henry M. and W.S.); J. Harrison (father of Alfred K. and Ed. J.); Christian, of Wisconsin; and George W. (father of Lieut. Charles, Mrs. Liley and Mrs. Royce) are deceased. William, of Erie; Hiram, of Ind; Benjamin E., of Harborcreek, and Thomas of Kans. survive.

Founding the Erie Gazette on the 7th of January, 1820, it was then the custom for the assistants in the office to board with the proprietor.

For sometime Judge and Mrs. Sterrett had been the oldest married couple in Erie, where they resided for about sixty years, with a

brief interval of residence on their Harborcreek farm. Almost half a century of this was passed in the brick homestead on State street, which will long continue to be associated with their names. They had four sons and five daughters.

Mrs. Sterrett was, since 1831, a member of and constant attendant of the First Presbyterian Church, of which her husband is the sole surviving charter member. The deceased will be kindly remembered by those who, as former members of The Gazette establishment, were of her household. The eminent Horace Greeley, during his Erie residence, was one of these in 1832. To that period this remarkable man, forty years afterwards, aptly referred in his memorable tour as a presidential candidate, in that series of addresses which drew the attention and admiration of the whole country. In his speech at Erie he alluded to his residence at the home of Judge Sterrett as one of the pleasantest periods of his life. While on their bridal tour, Mr. and Mrs. Greeley visited Judge and Mrs. Sterrett. All who from time to time made their home there (as some did for years), took with them a pleasing recollection of their kind-hearted hostess. This feeling neither time nor distance dispelled. And now, as her long life is closed, memory reverts to her many kindnesses as a friend and neighbor, to her hospitality and motherly devotion. These make up the record of a busy, laborious and useful life.

JOSEPH M. STERRETT.

Joseph M. Sterrett left his father's house in McKean twp., Erie Co., Pa. when a boy to learn the printing trade. He founded the Erie Gazette and ever after resided in Erie. He was a State Senator, 1837 to 1841 and Associate Judge, 1850 to 1856.

CHRISTIAN RIBLET.

Christian Riblet was the second son of Michael Riblet, and was born in 1810, in Millcreek township, Erie county. He was a brother to Mrs. Judge Sterrett, William, J. H., and George Riblet of this city, and Jonathan Riblet of Belle Valley. In 1834 he was married to Miss Abbie Partridge, and in the year 1845, he moved to Lodi, Wis., where he cultivated an excellent farm. In 1871 a son who had settled near Osage, Ia., induced the old gentleman to remove to Osage, where he and his wife--who survives him--lived enjoying the esteem of all who knew them. He died Feb. 20, 1879, in his 69th year.

WILLIAM JACKSON RIBLET.

William Jackson, oldest son of Christian Riblet died at Sandon British Columbia, Canada, April 2, 1903. Byron C., Walter S. and Royal G., three sons of William Jackson Riblet, are eminent civil engineers in Spokane, Washington. Lorenzo E. Riblet another son of Christian was a station agent for the C. & N. W. Ry. at Waukesha, Wis. for 35 years. He moved to Minneapolis, Minn. and died in April, 1931.

MYRON ZELOTUS RIBLET.

Serg. Myron Zelotus Riblet, Co. E. 2nd Wis. Cavalry, and 2nd son of Christian Riblet of Okee, Columbia Co., Wis. formerly of Millcreek Twp., Erie Co., Pa. at Jefferson Barracks Hospital, near St. Louis, died on the 24th of March last, age 24 years. We copy the following notice of Serg. Riblet from the Lodi (Wis.) Herald. "The death of this young man demands more than a passing notice, as

he was one of the few who in every relation of life, secured the respect of every one that became acquainted with him. Although of modest and retiring manners, yet he exerted great and beneficial influence in the circle of his young friends. His mind was of a high order, stored with those things that peculiarly fitted him for a life of usefulness, and that led him to sacrifice the comforts of home and the society of those he loved to do battle for his country. He went into the army from a sense of duty; a strong and vigorous constitution he thought fitted him for the service. He bore the hardships and privations of camp life well for a time, while many of his companions were in the hospital. His mother learning he was very sick, went to him intending to bring him home. However, she was permitted to see him only a short time before his eyes closed in death. She returned with his remains to their home in Okee. Thus has there been another victim to this wicked, cruel, objectless rebellion; another community has lost one of its brightest ornaments; thus has passed away one that had not an enemy, but was respected and beloved by every one, as the immense concourse of people who attended his funeral fully attested. But we are comforted, in the fact that our loss is his gain."

JOHN HARRISON RIBLET.

Death of John Riblet -- A Brief Sketch of His Life and Works.

J. H. Riblet died at his residence, corner of Peach and Twelfth streets, at 9 o'clock yesterday (Friday) Morning. He was a son of Michael and Elizabeth (Ebersole) Riblet.

Mr. Riblet was born in East Millcreek, February 28, 1815, being at the time of his death aged 64 years and one month. At the age of 14 he came to Erie and became the apprentice of William McNutt at cabinet making. Having completed his apprenticeship, he went South for a year, and returning in 1834 went into business for himself on Sixth street between French and Holland. He afterwards moved to the corner of Eighth and State streets, remaining ten years, and finally purchased a lot and built the store on State, between Seventh and Eighth.

In 1871 Mr. Nece retired from the business, and after that the firm was known as Riblet and Bostwick, and they continued till 1878 when he bought out Mr. Bostwick's interest and continued the business till June 1, when he transferred the entire stock and business to his two sons, A. K. and E. J. Riblet, who continued it under the firm name of Riblet Bros. Mr. Riblet was in the same business for a continuous period of 44 years, and while there, may be others who have been in business a longer time, it is doubtful if there is another who has continued successfully in one line of trade for so long a time. Mr. Riblet's aim in life was to extend his business and improve the city in which he lived, and although he avoided politics and sought no official position, he was elected to and served six years in the Select Council with conscientious regard for the interests of his constituency. He represented the Third Ward, and was in the Councils during the years of the war.

On the 17th of March, 1844, Mr. Riblet was married to Jane Kilpatrick, and at once moved into the house in which he has ever since lived, and where he breathed his last. When the house was built it was in the midst of an almost unbroken wilderness, the

settled part of the town being at the time in the vicinity of Third and Fourth street. When he built it was in opposition to the advice of General Reed, of whom he purchased, but the property has since proved to be the most valuable investment in real estate that he ever made.

Mr. Riblet, besides being an enterprising and exemplary citizen, was kind to his family, and did all in his power to make the home happy and advance the interests of his children. He lived a life of uninterrupted happiness until last November, when his wife died, which gave him a shock from which he never recovered. He had been suffering with a complication of complaints for 21 months, which culminated in dropsy of the brain, and terminated his life. Deceased leaves as immediate connections, Mrs. Judge Sterrett, a sister, Johnathan Riblet, of Belle Valley, and George W. and William Riblet, of this city, brothers, besides a family of four children--Etta S. Bostwick, Anna E. and A. K. and E. J. Riblet; while a wide range of friends and acquaintances will mourn the loss of one who was foremost in every good work, and has probably done as much according to his means for the good of Erie as any other individual. He began the world with nothing, and by an indomitable will and unwavering perseverance built up a large business and an independent fortune.

MRS. JOHN H. RIBLET.

Death of Mrs. J. H. Riblet -- November 1878

Mrs. Riblet was raised in Erie county and in 1844 was married and moved into the house corner of Peach and 12th streets, where she lived until her death. She was the mother of five children, four of whom survive her. It is no slight evidence of the Christian faithfulness of her maternal care in having a remarkable anxiety in training her children to be intelligent, upright and pious. She spared no pains to instruct them in the good old paths, and her labors were not without their fruits, as they are all earnest members of the United Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Riblet received a very sudden call, yet it found her prepared. She might be called one of the excellent of the earth, whether we contemplate her as a wife, a mother, a Christian, or as a member of civil society, and in all these relations she will be missed. The large concourse of people at the funeral attested the esteem in which she was held.

GEORGE W. RIBLET.

Death of George W. Riblet--A Family Again Broken-Synopsis of His Life and Death.

Mr. George W. Riblet, one of Erie's most highly respected citizens, departed this life last evening at 20 minutes of 10 o'clock. October 26, 1885.

On Thursday evening last, the 22nd inst., he was stricken with paralysis on the right side, and although he had lost the power of speech, his reasoning faculties remained, and he was enabled to communicate intelligibly to his family and those about him by nods and glances of his eyes. This state of things continued until Friday at 3 o'clock, when he fell into what seemed to be a sound sleep, liquid nourishments being swallowed for the first twenty-four hours, but since Sunday morning, any attempt to introduce them ended in difficulty, amounting almost to strangulation. Thus the poor sufferer lingered until death came to his relief.

Mr. Riblet was a son of Michael and Elizabeth (Ebersole) Riblet, and was born in East Millcreek, February 7, 1818. During the year 1832, at the age of 14, he came to Erie, and was apprenticed to the printing business for seven years in the Gazette office, with Joseph M. Sterrett, his brother-in-law. At the age of 21 he became a "Journeyman", and continued to work in the office, holding the position of foreman for many years.

On the 9th of March, 1842, Mr. Riblet was married to Elizabeth K. daughter of the late Oliver Spafford, publisher and bookseller. In his domestic relations, Mr. Riblet was one of the kindest of husbands and an unusually loving and indulgent father. Hence his sorrowing partner, bereaved children, two sons-in-law, and two grandchildren, feel that they have sustained a loss that cannot be filled.

Mr. Riblet left the printing office to take the position of tax collector for the "East Ward", as the district was then called, embracing the present First and Second wards. Here he remained for 12 years, giving general satisfaction to all. In 1877 he was elected Director of the Poor and served in that capacity for one term with ability and general acceptance, and many a destitute family in the city and county have reason for blessing his memory for what he did for them in their distress. Last winter, and for two winters previously, he served as superintendent in the distribution to the poor in the city of Erie, of aid raised by a charitable organization, composed of prominent citizens, and in that situation he seemed to be, in a pre-eminent degree, "the right man in the right place."

Mr. Riblet was firm and decided in everything he undertook, either as a citizen, politician or a humanitarian. In his death the family not only have lost a dear protector, but the community a true citizen, and the stricken wife and family have the entire sympathy of the public.

MRS. GEORGE W. RIBLET.

Death of Mrs. E. K. Riblet

Elizabeth K. Riblet, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Spafford, was born at Fredonia, N. Y., March 22, 1821, and was therefore, seventy years old. She was married to George W. Riblet on March 9 1842, by whom she had seven children, as follows: Charles H., killed at the battle of Fredericksburg, Va.; Lucinda, who died in 1849; Kate, wife of James Lilley; Addie, wife of Commander W. S. Royce; Joseph M., who died in 1870; Jessie, wife of Fred Pfaff, and Effie, wife of Chas. Motten.

Mrs. Riblet was a noble woman, kind to the poor, loving and motherly in her family, a true neighbor and a real friend of humanity everywhere, and her four living daughters, at this, her taking off "rise up and call her blessed."

WILLIAM RIBLET.

Obituary -- November 4, 1893 -- Death of William Riblet--End of a Long and Useful Life.

Mr. William Riblet, who died Saturday, was the son of Michael and Elizabeth (Ebersole) Riblet, formerly of Millcreek township. He was born in May, 1820, on the old family home on the Buffalo road, east of Erie, long known as the Riblet homestead. At an early age, after the death of his mother, he came to Erie, where he

made his home with his only sister, Mrs. Joseph M. Sterrett, wife of the renowned editor of the Erie "Gazette."

He learned the trade of cabinet-maker with his brothers, J. Harrison Riblet and Jonathan Riblet, who were carrying on the business on East Sixth street. After completing his apprenticeship he went to Buffalo, where he remained for some time. There he married Miss Welsh and returned to Erie, where he made his home for life. He continued in the business of cabinet-making and undertaking for many years, until compelled by advancing years to desist. His sight also became impaired and had been for a number of years. His home was for many years on Sassafras street, where he died. One daughter, Mrs. Smith, survives him.

He and his wife were members of the Baptist Church of Erie. Of genial manners and keen recollection of past events, he delighted in reminiscences of the old-time history of Erie and especially enjoyed the society of old friends. He was prominent in one or more of the societies of Erie.

He survived his brothers Jonathan, J. Harrison, George W., and his sister, Mrs. Sterrett. His brother Benjamin E. Riblet, director of the poor, and one other survive. He was the uncle of Henry M. Riblet, attorney at law, and of W. S. Riblet and E. J. and A. K. Riblet, of this city. As one of the oldest of a large connection he will be widely missed, especially in his pleasant home, which has long been noted for its hospitality and where his declining years were serenely passed in the society of his devoted daughter. Mrs. Riblet died in 1881.

BENJAMIN EMERSON RIBLET.

The subject of this sketch was a son of Michael and Hannah (Walker) Riblet, born in East Millcreek, January 12, 1834, and departed this life Saturday, October 14, 1905, in his 72nd year. He responded to the call for volunteers in 1862, enlisting in the 145th Pennsylvania regiment, Company D. He married Miss Grace A. Chambers Nov. 12, 1866, and had resided in Harborcreek a number of years. He and his wife united with the Presbyterian church in Harborcreek, July 5, 1874. He was a ruling elder. For many years he was in the mercantile business. For nearly two years Mr. Riblet was confined to the house, but he was patient and uncomplaining, and submissive to the Divine will. He was well and favorably known throughout this section, and the unusually large attendance at the funeral services testified to the confidence and esteem of his friends and neighbors.

The services were held in the Presbyterian Church of Harborcreek, on Monday afternoon, his pastor, the Rev. James A. McGowan officiating, who spoke of the virtues of the deceased, his faith in Christ, his fidelity to duty and principle, and his loyalty to the church. He manifested an extraordinary love for God's house and God's people, and during his illness often expressed a desire to meet once more with those with whom he took sweet counsel and walked with to the house of God. God led his servant gently down through the dark valley. It is the sweet hope that we are permitted to cherish that he lies asleep in the beautiful "God's acre," near the town of North East.

THOMAS CHARLES RIBLET.

Served on Gunboat -- T.C. Riblet Was Fireman on River During The War.

The funeral of T. C. Riblet was held in the First Baptist Church, Clay Center, Kansas, Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. The church was not large enough to hold all the friends who came to pay their last tribute of respect to Mr. Riblet, than whom there was not a better loved man in the city.

Thomas Charles Riblet, who departed this life October 11, 1905, was a son of Michael and Hannah Riblet, born December 22, 1835, on his father's old homestead in East Millcreek township, Erie Co. Pa. On the 29th of May, 1862, he was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Phoebe, daughter of Lyman Blair, to whom were born a family of six children, viz., Mrs. Clara E. Ferris, of Harbor Creek, Pa., Henry N. of Petaluma, Cal., Mrs. Stella Kay and Mrs. Alta Weidman of this city, also Clarence E. and the youngest son, Herbert Charles, who died in 1886.

In 1879 he settled in Trego county, Kansas, and after proving up on his homestead, he moved to Clay Center in 1883. For many years he followed the occupation of a farmer, but during his long residence in this city he engaged in the dray business.

CHARLES H. RIBLET.

"Chas. H. Riblet Camp", Erie, Pa.--Honored With a Flag by the Family of the Dead Lieutenant.

Last Evening "Chas. H. Riblet Camp," sons of Veterans, held a social at Grand Army Hall with a view of acquiring sufficient revenue to secure for themselves a suitable flag, which they hoped to carry by Decoration Day. The family of George W. Riblet concluded, when they heard of the purpose of last evening's entertainment, to forestall the boys and purchase the much-desired flag and present it to their camp. The flag was secured and the matter kept a secret until last evening. In this connection it should be stated that the camp, was named in honor of Lieut. Charles H. Riblet, son of George W. Riblet, and who fell at the battle of Fredericksburg, Va.

After the exercise of the evening had been opened, Mrs. Royce, sister of the dead hero, and wife of Post Commander W. Royce, of Post 67, G.A.R., interrupted the exercised by unfurling a rich regulation silk flag contributed by her father's family to the camp. Mrs. Royce addressed the camp commandant, feelingly thanking the camp for conferring the honor upon the family by christening the camp after her late lamented brother, and by way of appreciation presented as a mark of respect the flag, with this injunction:

"And, sir, as you and your comrades gather beneath or march under its shining folds, you will ever be reminded, I trust, that it was to protect its honor and to shield our homes and firesides that my dear brother, whose name you have kindly adopted, and thousands of other brave and noble men marched forth and returned no more. It will also remind you that as the fruits of these costly sacrifices our country has been united--'grim visaged war has smoothed his wrinkled front,' and that peace 'folds her wings in all our borders. And so, in conclusion, allow me to wish your organization abundant success and a long career of usefulness". Capt. Oliver called upon Gen. D. B. McCreary to respond for the camp. Lieut. Riblet had been a law student in the general's office, and had joined him in the organization of Co. D., 145th Regiment. The young hero's studious, manly course during his

short career in civil life; his zeal in raising the company with which he served; and finally the manner of his death amid the smoke and carnage of battle in front of the enemy at Fredericksburg, were all most eloquently portrayed by the general. Lieut. Chas. H. Riblet, the young officer in whose honor the post was named, was one of the bravest and most honorable young men that Erie sent forth to the sacrifice of the late war. His death was a sad and melancholy one. Robert S. Moorhead, clerk of courts, who survived the awful scene of carnage in which Lieut. Riblet lost his life says that after leaving Erie and being mustered in, the regiment moved forward and aside from skirmishing had its first real duty in burying the dead at Antietem. On the night of Dec. 11, the regiment was ordered to Fredericksburg, and after some delay in crossing the river finally passed over and on the morning of Dec. 13 moved forward into the fight. As the regiment was moving forward out of the lee of a row of buildings, which had sheltered it from the fire of the rebels, it was met by a shower of shot and shell. As Company D passed into range of the enemy's fire, a shell swept across the column of fours, taking four men and Lieut. Riblet, who was marching about four feet from Mr. Moorhead. That was the last ever seen of the young officer. When the roll was called Co. D, 145th Penn's, Vols. answered but eight names. Although the most careful search was made for the body of Lt. Riblet, not a vestige of it could ever be found, and in all probability it was blown to pieces by the shell.

HENRY MICHAEL RIBLET.

March 2, 1920 -- Death Henry M. Riblet --- The announcement of the sudden death of Henry M. Riblet will be received with deep regret by a large circle of friends and associates. Mr. Riblet was born on Nov. 6, 1845, in the then borough, now city of Erie. He was the son of Jonathan and Sophia (Fluke) Riblet. He was educated in the public schools of Erie and was graduated from the Erie Academy in the summer of 1864. He learned the cabinet maker's trade with his father. At the age of 19 he entered the law office of Gunnison and McCreary, attorneys, as a law student and was admitted to the Bar of Erie county on Oct. 3, 1867.

On the 18th of November 1869, he was united in marriage with Miss Pauline Hayes Carpenter, of Painesville, Ohio, who died May 25, 1879. A daughter, Mrs. Warner W. Thomas, Jr., was born of this marriage, who still survives. In 1881 he was again married to Miss Gertrude Agnes Gaillard, who with one son, Harry G. Riblet, survive. Mr. Riblet was a man of high ideals, a deep student, well liked by all who knew him. He was a member of the Erie Co. Bar for over 52 years, a successful practitioner of law. He was also a successful business man, acquiring real estate extensively.

HARRY GAILLARD RIBLET.

Riblet to be Manager of New Concrete Firm --- Resignation March 21, 1930 of Harry G. Riblet, employed in the maintenance department of the city engineer's office for the past six years, was presented to city council Friday morning. The resignation is to be effective April 1st. According to Mr. Riblet this morning, he has accepted a position as manager with the Ready Mixed Concrete company and wishes to be relieved to take over his new duties. The former city employe has had wide experience in the practical side of concrete work. He is a technical graduate.

HENRY JAMES RIBLET.

Miss Virginia Potter and Henry James Riblet wed. Sept. 2, 1940, in New York City -- Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Potter, 625 West 6th St., announce the marriage of their daughter, Virginia Ruth, to Henry James Riblet, only son of Harry G. Riblet.

Mr. Riblet attended Central High School. He received his B. S. degree, summa cum laude, from the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University in 1935, and his Ph. D. in 1939. He was formerly a member of the faculty of Yale University and now teaches at Adelphi College, Long Island, where he heads the mathematics department.

WINFIELD SCOTT RIBLET.

He was a son of Jonathan and Sophia (Fluke) Riblet. His good wife was Affie I. Russel. They had one son and two daughters. The son, Scott Russell Riblet left a son Winfield Scott Riblet who has a son Robert Scott Riblet. Winifred S. married Edwin S. Roach and their two sons are Jere H. Roach and Allen R. Roach. Bertha R. and her husband, W. L. Pire, have a daughter, Mary Lois and a son Ward Russell.

ALFRED KING RIBLET.

Double Surprise -- Retirement of Alfred K. Riblet from the Furniture Business Marked by a Present to Each Employe, and Men in Turn Presented Him With Token of Remembrance, That Showed The High Esteem in Which He Was Held.

One of the most pleasant events which ever occurred in a mercantile establishment in Erie happened in the office of the late E. J. Riblet on Saturday evening last, although it was tinged with sadness. When Alfred K. Riblet gave out the regular pay envelopes to the employees, he handed to each one, to their surprise, a twenty dollar gold piece. Without suspecting any such occurrence, the employees had come to the office in a body, and selecting G. L. Harrington to speak for them all, Mr. Harrington spoke in part as follows:

"Mr. Riblet, you are surrounded by your employees who are your sincere friends. During these many years that you have been the manager of this business while the relation of employe and employe~~s~~ has been rigidly maintained, yet there has always existed a warm personal friendship. There are men standing now before you who have been in your employ for nearly forty years, and I can truly say that the men who have been with you longest love you best, and had you cared to manage this business longer, there is not a man here but what would have gladly remained with you, giving you his best services as long as you cared to continue the business, even unto death. You have seen fit, however, to retire from business, and we have met this evening in your honor. You have brought to a successful close, one of the best business enterprise that Erie has ever had. The name Riblet stands high in this city and county and is a synonym for good furniture, fair dealing, and honesty. Seventy-five years ago your respected father started this business in a modest way, when Erie was small, on the old canal, and later we find him and the business where the Erie Trust Company is now doing business. Before his death he built the store just north of the Scott block, but it remained for you and your dear brother to build this magnificent building in which we now are, and we know that it is a great matter of pride

with you, and justly so, that during this long period of time that this concern has never compromised with anyone, but has always paid 100 cents on the dollar, and the speaker knows positively that you yourself have had money lying in the bank to protect the fair name of Riblet if it should become necessary to use it. And so we say that you can claim much of the honor for the fact that the integrity of the firm has been for years above reproach, and that the long established furniture firm of Riblet comes to an honorable close without a single stain upon it. For your sake, Mr. Riblet, we are glad that you have laid down the burdens and cares of this large business. You have always been of a sunny and cheerful disposition, and it has been a pleasure to work with you, and now when you are free from business cares we hope you will have many years of pleasure, and that the last years of your life will be the best of all. Now, Mr. Riblet, we wish to give you something by which you will remember us as long as you live, and on behalf of your employes, standing before you and dear sister, Anna, who loves you, and has joined forces with us, we present to you this diamond ring, in loving memory of the many happy years we have spent with you and as a token of our love and esteem for you."

Mr. Riblet, nearly overcome with surprise and emotion, accepted the magnificent solitaire in the following words:

"My Dear Men: You have certainly given me the greatest surprise of my life. Although I have looked forward to this day as one of my happiest, as the opportunity is now given me to go and find a climate that is more suitable to my health, one in which I can drive my horse every morning, twelve months in the year in place of five, one where there is no ice or snow that keeps me in constant fear of receiving another fall. Yet I must admit I regret exceedingly to part with you, my true men, who have worked with me so faithfully for so many years, yes, you men who have helped me to rear this mammoth block on our old homestead site, a monument to the memory of my dear brother and myself. I thank you from the depths of my heart for this beautiful diamond ring and as I wear it in the years to come and go, it will be a constant reminder of the happy hours we have worked together. Hoping that you will be as true and faithful to your new employer, as you were to Riblet Brothers, I wish you one and all, a long and prosperous life and bid you an affectionate farewell.

MRS. ALFRED K. RIBLET.

The late Mrs. A. K. Riblet ---- The Funeral Services Yesterday Afternoon, Attended by Many Sympathizing Friends--The Beautiful Tribute Paid to the Dead by Rev. J. C. Wilson.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Annie McKnight Riblet, the beloved wife of Mr. Alfred K. Riblet, took place yesterday afternoon. The hour for the funeral was set for 3 o'clock, but long before that time the family residence on West Eleventh street was thronged with the friends of the deceased. Mrs. Riblet was a lady who endeared herself to all by her many lovely traits of mind and heart and her death occasioned much sadness among a wide circle of friends. She will be greatly missed. Her face bore a contented look, as she died most happily. She knew that she was to die, & pictured to those around her the beauties of the future. The display of floral emblems was simply magnificent and showed the esteem in which the deceased was held.

MRS. CLARENCE E. RIBLET.

Final rites for Mrs. Clarence Riblet were held in the Peterson-Neill Chapel in Clay Center, Kans. with the Rev. Herbert T. Beatty of the First Baptist Church in charge. Three beautiful songs were sung; "Abide with Me," "Home of the Soul" and "Rock of Ages." Burial was in the Riblet family plot in Greenwood Cemetery. Rose Dale Pitzer was born at Glenwood, Iowa, March 7, 1876, the daughter of Newton B. and Susan (Wright) Pitzer. When she was 15 years old she confessed faith in Christ and became a member of the Baptist Church. After attending high school and Lincoln Normal she taught school several years. In 1897 she came with her parents to Smith Co., Kans. For a few years they lived on a farm and later in Smith Center.

Rose D. Pitzer and Rev. C. E. Riblet, then pastor of the Baptist Church at Brownell, Kans. were united in marriage June 27, 1906. They were blessed with three worthy children. Mrs. Riblet was a splendid helper and a great blessing in her work as a pastor's wife; faithfully fulfilling the duties, such as a Sunday School teacher, pianist and alto singer. She leaves a wholesome influence because of her exemplary Christian life and cheerfulness.

CLARENCE EMERSON RIBLET.

My father was Thomas Charles and Michael Riblet was my grandfather. The date of my birth was December 13, 1872. At that time my parents lived in McKean township, Erie Co. Pa. We moved to Kansas in 1879. I was led to Christ the Savior and was baptized into the fellowship of the First Baptist Church, Clay Center, Kans. August 21, 1887. While yet a young man I realized the Lord was calling me and I entered the ministry. It was a most blessed service, preaching and unsearchable riches of Christ and leading souls to the Savior. A most interesting baptismal service was once held in a beautiful rockbound pool near Des Moines, N. Mex. At Plains, Kans. we built a very beautiful brick church. Practically all my work was in Kansas, and after about forty years of service I retired from pastoral duties. I still enjoy teaching a Sunday School class.

My daughter Phoebe LaVerne teaches school and lives at home. My other daughter, Rose Clivia is a medical technician. Her husband is Dr. W. L. Beller, a Radiologist in Topeka, Kansas. They have two boys and one girl. My son Henry Bartley Riblet lives in Kensington, Md. He is a Group Supervisor, for projecting and developing the telemeter, in a Research Laboratory. He and his wife, Idabelle have three daughters.

SOLOMON RIBLET.

Solomon Riblet was the second son of John and Catherine (Keiper) Riblet, born in Northampton Co., Pa. in 1782. About 1808 he and Mary (Polly) Keiper were married. They raised a family of nine children. After his mother died in 1810 he lived with his father, John Riblet. His daughter Mary Ann tells that she remembers when a little girl playing in the attic with her sisters and cutting up a scarlet cloak for doll clothes. She also says that her grandfather, John Riblet, had a Bible containing family records. Query, where is that Bible now?

While living with his father near Wesleyville, Erie Co., Pa., Solomon Riblet was an active member of the Methodist Church. On

June 22, 1833, he and George W. Walker were on a committee at a Quarterly Meeting of the church to exclude a certain man. Geo. W. Walker was a brother to Hannah, the second wife of Michael Riblet.

Solomon Riblet moved to Huron Co., Ohio and died about 1844. His wife died in 1865.

SAMUEL RIBLET.

Samuel was the oldest son of Solomon Riblet. He was born in Erie Co., Pa. in 1811. He and Deborah Woods were married in Alleganney Co., Pa., Nov. 1833. They had five children and moved to Litchfield township, Hillsdale Co., Michigan in 1834. He served as Justice of the Peace. He died in June, 1895. Clarinda was his second wife.

MRS. SAMUEL RIBLET.

Mrs. Riblet was born in Westmoreland county, Penna., October 1808, where she lived until December 1833, being married in November of the year previous. Mr. and Mrs. R. came to Litchfield in the spring of 1834 and reared a log house on the site of the residence in which Mrs. R. died. At that time their nearest neighbor lived three miles away, and the second nearest at Jonesville. Help being impossible to secure she assisted in rolling the logs together to construct a house. She endured many hardships incident to pioneer life, and for the first 10 years of her life here, she saw but one person besides her family whom she had seen previous to her coming; yet during all this time she never uttered a word of complaint, regret or desire to return East. She was one of seven members who formed the first class at the organization of the M. E. Church of this village, and was one of seven persons who listened to the first sermon ever delivered in this township, being at her home in June, 1835, and preached by Stephen Wilcox. She was the mother of five children all of whom were in attendance at her funeral.

MRS. ALBERT G. CONGER.

Died, Tuesday, December 8, 1908, Mrs. Conger, wife of Albert G. Conger, aged 71 years, 9 months. Mary Jane Riblet Conger was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Riblet, pioneer settlers in Litchfield township. Mr. and Mrs. Riblet came here from Penn. in the spring of 1835. Their daughter, Mary, was born March 23, 1837, and was said to be the first white girl born in this township. She lived here all of the 71 years of her useful life. Albert G. Conger and Mary Jane Riblet were married November 23, 1858, and lived happily together for just a little more than fifty years; their golden wedding was celebrated, although but quietly, two weeks ago last Monday; only immediate relatives were present, because of the illness of the wife and mother.

Mrs. Conger was one of five children in the Riblet family, one brother, Cyrus Riblet, of Litchfield, and one sister, Mrs. Mattie Pittwood, of Newaygo, surviving her. Besides her husband she leaves five children, all grown to manhood and womanhood.

SOLOMON KIPER RIBLET.

He was the oldest son of Samuel Riblet. He and his wife Jennie L. Day were married Sept. 10, 1860. They had nine children, five of whom died young. His wife was church organist for more than

forty years. He came to Newaygo, Mich. about 1856 and after being in merchantile business for nearly forty years he retired and died Oct. 7, 1908.

FRED WOODS RIBLET.

Son of the above was born in 1870. After high school and business college and admission to the bar of Mich. he was an attorney at law in Newaygo and did considerable real estate business in the Co. From there he went to Muskegon where his last job was president of the Muskegon Trust Co. which he founded in 1920. He was a patentee of an abstract system. He retired from aggressive business in 1924. His first wife was Grace E. McKee and they became the parents of three children. After going south to Florida for many winters he and his present wife have their permanent home in Saint Petersburg, Florida where they are spending the evening time of life free from business anxieties and family cares.

His son Solomon Kiper Riblet is an attorney at law in Saint Petersburg and is having a very successful business. He has two children.

JOHN RIBLET, Jr.

John Riblet, third and youngest son of John and Catherine (Keiper) Riblet, was born in Northampton Co., Pa., May 18, 1786. He died at his late residence in Millcreek Twp. Erie, Co., Pa., October 19, 1849. In Jan. 1807 he married Phraney, daughter of Christian Ebersole. He emigrated to this county from Hagerstown, Md. in the year 1801, and has continued to reside uninterruptedly since that period, industriously engaged in the quiet occupation of farming. He was an active and consistant member of the German Presbyterian Church, and sustained, by common consent, the character of an honorable and useful citizen. His best and most comprehensive eulogy is, that he was the "noblest work of God"--an honest man!

JACOB RIBLET.

"A Good Citizen Gone" -- Mr. Jacob Riblet, one of the oldest and best known citizens of East Millcreek, received a stroke of paralysis last Wed. afternoon which proved fatal after an interval of nine hours. He went to the barn on an errand & failing to return at suppertime a search was instituted and he was found in the barn in a helpless condition, although he could speak. Mr. Riblet was aged 74 years and was born in Millcreek Twp. He has lived continuously in Erie Co. all his life. He was a son of the late John Riblet and a brother of Mr. C. K. Riblet. His wife died three years ago. One son--Clinton--and two daughters survive him. Two brothers, C. K. and David Riblet of East Millcreek, and one sister are living. Mr. Riblet was a quiet unassuming man, an obliging neighbor, and a true friend. He was a peacemaker. His loss will be mourned by a large circle of friends in the city and county. The funeral was largely attended from his late residence last Thursday. Died Nov. 1, 1883.

CHRISTIAN KEIBER RIBLET.

A Pioneer Gone--the youngest son of John Riblet, Jr. of Huguenot-German extraction. He died at his late residence on east Buffalo road on the 8th day of November 1900. He was born Nov. 17, 1825 upon the farm on which he died. Mr. Riblet grew up on this farm, which at the death of his parents became his and followed the avocation of a farmer. Prudent and industrious he acquired a competency which he, with his wife, enjoyed to the fullest extent. In politics an ardent black abolitionist, he became an earnest and active Republican, upon the organization of that party, at all times willing to work for its great and glorious objects, and he devoted much time to the advancement of its interests.

A careful and thoughtful observer, the papers of this city, (Erie) received many communications from his pen. He lived an earnest, prudent and upright life, and in the fullness of years has gone to join the innumerable hosts who have passed over into the great hereafter.

Mr. Riblet was married on the twentieth day of December, 1849 to Miss Sarah, daughter of the late Jacob Charles, of Harborcreek Township. She too, was of Pennsylvania-German descent--an earnest consistent Christian, a thoughtful, loving wife, a firm and lasting friend. This union was not blessed with children, and Mr. & Mrs. Riblet drew near unto them, instead, their nephews and nieces, who were the same as children to them.

Mrs. Riblet died on the sixteenth of April, 1898. This was a crushing blow to Mr. Riblet, which in his old age he was unable to stand. There was no consolation for him in this life. Death alone brought him relief. Firm believers in Christianity, Mr. & Mrs. were life-long adherents of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Wesleyville, and both entered heart and soul into the work and welfare of this church. In their early married life they took into their home a little girl, Mary Kennedy, who grew up under their care, a woman, and a daughter, a solace and a comfort to them in their old age.

MATILDA CROOK.

Mrs. Matilda Riblet Crook, widow of the late James K. Crook, passed away at the residence, 3001 Parade street, early Wednesday morning after a lingering illness. The deceased was one of the oldest residents of this city. She was the daughter of the late Jacob and Eliza Riblet of East Millcreek. She was married to James K. Crook on March 18, 1875, who preceded her in death by two months. Throughout her years of married life she was known as a kind and loving mother, wife and neighbor. The survivors are two sons, Winfield D., and J. Vernon Crook, and two granddaughters, Marion A., and Betty Ann Crook and one nephew, Raymond Caskey.

OLIVER SPAFFORD RIBLET.

"Ollie" Riblet Dies at Home -- Heart Attack is Fatal to Prominent Erie Man.

Oliver S. Riblet, 71, known to thousands in Erie as "Ollie," died at his home 516 Wallace street, at 6 o'clock this morning, the end coming after a five week's illness. Mr. Riblet suffered a heart attack five weeks ago and his advanced years and long declining health formed a barrier which he could not overcome. For several days he had been in a semi-conscious condition. Born and

raised in this city of an old time Erie family, Ollie Riblet, was one of the best known men of the city. He was a prominent cement contractor and also prominent in political circles. Ollie Riblet was a great outdoor man and a lover of athletics. His hobbies were hunting and boxing and for the past several years he was one of the licensed judges for the state. He served very infrequently during the past year, his health being so poor that he declined but until he was stricken with his final illness he was a regular spectator at all bouts. Surviving him are the widow, four daughters: Miss Alice, teacher at Wayne school; Mrs. H. C. McLenna, of Detroit, Mich; Mrs. W. J. Hagstrom of Rochester, N. Y., and Mrs. A. G. Cranch, of Cleveland, and one son, Ralph of this city. Interment in Trinity cemetery.

PORTER KELSEY RIBLET.

Porter K. Riblet, retired, is among the highly esteemed and representative citizens of Erie, where he has spent practically his entire life. He was a son of John E. and Eliza Jane Riblet. He attended the public schools of Erie and also took a business course. He then studied law in the office of Judge Gunnison and Henry M. Riblet. Later he was employed as a machinist by the Otsego Fork Mills at Girard, Pa., for three years and on July 7, 1888 he was appointed a letter carrier in the city of Erie, in which capacity he served for 35 years continuously. In 1881 he was married to Hattie M. Collins of Girard, Pa., daughter of James and Amanda Collins of Erie. Politically, Mr. Riblet is a Republican. He is identified with the Letter Carriers' Mutual Benefit Association, of which he served as secretary for one year. In 1876 he enlisted in the Pa. National Guard & served for five years as a member of Co. G. 16th Reg. He is a member of the Methodist Church and is widely known in Erie. His wife, Hattie Mae, was struck by an automobile and instantly killed while crossing the street in Dec. 1931.

ARTHUR G. RIBLET.

Arthur G. Riblet, sixty-nine, Bell rd., Harborcreek, a veteran of the Spanish American War, died early Saturday morning in Hamot hospital following a long illness. A resident of Harborcreek for the last 25 years, Mr. Riblet has taken a prominent place in the activities of the Presbyterian church there. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Bessie Robertson) Riblet; a daughter, Mrs. Arlie M. Beals; a son, John G. Riblet; and three grandchildren, all of Harborcreek.

DAVID MICHAEL RIBLET.

Was the third son of John Riblet, Jr. and married Catharine Charles. They had a family of three children. 1. Clayton David Riblet married Elizabeth Burton. 2. Catharine M. Riblet married Zachery T. Cooper. 3. William David Riblet married Abbie Bran.

DAVID W. RIBLET.

David W. Riblet, Ex-President of Erie Eagles, Dies -- Nov. 22, 1943
David W. Riblet, 54, past president of Erie Aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles and veteran of World War I, died in the United States Naval Hospital in Philadelphia Wednesday after a long illness. Riblet, who was also a member of the Quarter Century Club at the

Erie Works of the General Electric where he had been employed for 28 years, was a patternmaker by trade. We lived in Erie until a few months ago when he moved to York, Pa. He was taken seriously ill there and was transferred to the naval hospital only recently. The deceased served in Company A, 328th Infantry, 82nd Division while overseas for 22 months. Riblet was also a member of the Luthern Memorial Church. He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Oscar Adam of Erie and two brothers, Ray and Earl Riblet, also of Erie.

DONALD B. RIBLET.

Donald B. Riblet, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Riblet, 1907 Buffalo rd. has been promoted to the rank of Captain. He is an assistant finance officer. Capt. Riblet has been in the service for three years. He is a graduate of Academy high school and Westminster college. He received his Master's Degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Pa. and is employed by the Ernest & Ernest, accountants and auditors, Pittsburgh, Pa. He has one girl, Marcia Ann.

RICHARD E. RIBLET.

Is a brother to the above. He has a girl, Rebecca and a boy, Daniel Mark.

CHRISTIAN RIBLET.

He was one of the sons of Bartholomew and Catherine (Livegood) Riblet. He returned home from the Revolutionary War in Jan. 1780. The U. S. 1790 census gives his residence in Northampton Co. Pa. He and his wife, with one son (Jacob) under 16 and two daughters under 16. Afterwards he lived in Berks and Northumberland counties. By 1819 he had settled in Union Co., Pa. In 1828 and 1829 he was an overseer and moved to O. in 1831.

He was blind about fifteen years before his death, the blindness supposed to have been caused by exposure during the time he was in the army. He died April 6th, 1844, at the home of his son Daniel Riblet, and is buried in the graveyard near "Riblet Corners" Richland County, Ohio. His grave has a marker placed there by the Mansfield, Ohio, Chapter of the D. A. R. Christina Magdalene Shull, daughter of John David and Christina (Ehro) Shull, was born Aug. 18, 1763, and was married to Christian Riblet in Nov. 1783. She was a great favorite with all her friends, and was considered "very nice." She had a crippled foot which was caused during a night alarm of Indians, when the mother took the children to the attic for safety; in the darkness, Christina stepped on an ax, the result of which was a crippled foot. As a child, Christina with her brothers and sisters, had as playmates the children of the friendly roving Indians, who made willow ware and bead work. The family lived near some wealthy Quakers who had had one of their little girls carried off by the Indians. These facts together with the experiences she had as a child served to make interesting tales for the grandchildren who never tired of listening to these "wonderful" stories she had to tell them, and the children were all very fond of her. She taught them German, and they could not speak English when she took them to school in the new home in Ohio. She explained to the teacher that the children would not give any trouble, but she must have patience until they learned the rules and language. She died in Richland Co., at the home of her son, Daniel Riblet, Nov. 9, 1852, and is buried beside her husband, Christian Riblet, in the grave-yard near "Riblet Corners" Richland County, Ohio.

JACOB RIBLET, Sr.

The oldest son of Christian and Christina Magdalene (Shull) Riblet was Jacob, born in Northampton Co., Pa. in 1784. He and Sarah Catherine Sutters were married about 1807 and lived in Southampton Twp., Franklin Co. Pa. where their eight children were born. Sometime later he moved to Union Co., Pa. Dec. 26, 1838 he was Justice of the Peace and Notary Public. "The Snyder Co. Annals" states that Jacob Riblet lived on the Isle of Que at Selinsgrove, Pa., was a Magistrate, school teacher and public spirited citizen. His wife died in 1846. He afterwards married Julia Ann Robinson and they raised two sons, Calvin and William. In 1859 he went to Pekin, Ill. where two of his sons had preceded him. His death occurred about 1866.

HENRY JACOB RIBLET.

His son Henry Jacob Riblet went to Pekin, Ill. in 1835 where he was a pioneer religious leader. He married Harriett Rhoads, January 11 1841. They had four children but the two older ones, Catherine and Mary died in infancy. Henry Jacob died in 1873. His daughter, Rebecca married John Elliott, of Lincoln, Nebraska. A sketch of his son follows.

JACOB RHODES RIBLETT.

Military History: Born in Ill. Appointed from Ill. Pvt. B. and hospital steward. 108 Ill. Inf. Aug. 9, 1862 to Aug. 2, 1865. Cadet Military Academy, (West Point) July 1, 1868 to June 14, 1872, when he was graduated and promoted in the army to Second Lieut., Fifth Inf. June 14, 1872. Served: on frontier duty at Ft. Scott, Kans., Sept. 28 to Oct. 9, 1872 and at Ft. Dodge, Kans. to Apr. 28, 1873; and on leave of absence, to May 1, 1873. Resigned May 1, 1873 Civil History: Editor of a Newspaper, Pekin, Ill., 1873 to 18-- and at Peoria, Ill. Also at Rapid City, Mich.

Rapid City, Mich. Sept. 8, 1908

C. E. Riblett, My dear Cousin: Your kind favor of 4th came along OK. I don't know much about the Riblet family history. My father had 3 brother--his name was Henry Jacob, and my 2 uncles were Jacob Henry and Jeremiah. My father's father's name was Jacob. The family lived in Selinsgrove Snyder Co., Penn. on the Susquehanna river above Harrisburg. I heard from a family of Riblets in Erie, Pa. Henry, he wrote me way back in 1872-3 and they said they were cousins. I have heard there are Riblets in Va. and N.Y. State at Harlem, and there are some in Indiana and down at Newage in this state lives a Sol. K. Riblet. I have heard that our family were originally French Huguenots. The extra "T" in my name was a boy's joke--and it stuck. My discharge from the 108th Ill. Vol. Inf. in Aug. 1865, reads "Jacob R. Riblet", when I came home I was at the "vealy" age and wrote lots and lots of love letters to my numerous sweethearts. Often their answers were rec'd by Uncle Jacob who was a regular wit and to tease me he'd now and then open and read them and tell everybody what "softies" the whole bunch of us were. So to cut out his getting my letters I wrote my name Riblett and had my girl spoons address the envelopes that way and gave the postmaster instructions that "Riblett" was me and not Uncle Jacob. Then when I went to West Point in 1868 I signed the Register "Jacob Rhoads Riblett" and it would take an act of Congress to cut off the superfluous "T". I let it go and became accustomed to use it, but Riblet - as you write it - is our family

name. If ever I do come across any Riblett family news of any sort I will send it to you. Your cousin, J. R. Riblett

FRANK RIBLETT.

Frank Riblett was born at Pekin, Ill. in 1854. His great grandfather was Christian Riblett and Jacob was his grandfather. His father's name was Jacob Henry Riblett who was born in Franklin Co. Pa., 1821. After living in Snyder Co., Pa. for a number of years he went to Pekin, Ill. when he was 18 years old in 1839. He was a hardware merchant and planted and cultivated the first large orchard in central Ill. He married Diana Fisher, born near New Berlin, Union Co., Pa. She came to Ill. in 1849. They had four children: Frank, Addie, died in young womanhood, Lida married John Baldwin of Monmouth, Ill., and Lawrence W. died in infancy. In 1870 the family moved to Keokuk, Ia. Later they lived in Clark Co., Mo. where his wife died in 1873, buried in Kahoka. In 1884 Jacob H. Riblett followed his son Frank to Ida. and died about a year later. He was buried at Albin, Ida. In 1884 Frank Riblett married Dora Long, a native of Ia.^h They had two sons, John A. and Fred, both died in infancy. Frank is a member of American Assn. of Engineers, an Odd Fellow and Mason. Extracts from "Ida. Place and Its People." Vol. 3 Page 150.--There falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. His fidelity and progressivoness in citizenship and his sterling personal worth have made for popularity where-ever he is known.

Mr. Riblett is a native of Illinois, but left "The states" in 1875 for Cheyenne, Wyoming. The next day after arriving at Cheyenne he took passage in an ox train for Idaho, arriving at Soda Springs August 25th. He taught school in that vicinity the following winter. The first Fourth of July celebration ever held in the county was in 1876, and Frank Riblett was the orator of the day. The following winter he taught school in Marsh Basin, near where Albion is now located. He held the first certificate to teach issued in Cassia county, and has been closely identified with the schools ever since. He followed ranching and teaching for a number of years. When Cassia county was organized in 1879 he was appointed county surveyor, and since that time he has almost continuously servcd the public in some official capacity. He is a civil engineer of no small ability and has for many years been deputy U. S. land and mineral surveyor. He has the credit of being the original discoverer of the Minidoka project, having made the first preliminary surveys in 1887 for a system of irrigation from the Snake river. His report on this survey was embodied in a report to the Secretary of the Interior by Governor Stevenson, of Idaho. The publication of this report, together with a request from the then delegate Fred T. Duboise, led to the first investigation of irrigation by the government at Washington, in Idaho. He served in the state legislature at its seventh session, and at present is state water commissioner for the second district.

April 26, 1898, he enlisted in the 1st Idaho Vol. Co. C. and served seventeen months in the Spanish War and the Philippine rebellion. Mr. Riblett has been as closely identified with the history of this county as any other citizen, and is still full of enthusiasm for the land of opportunity.

Albion, Idaho--Dec. 21, 1905

Mr. C. E. Riblett, Dear Sir: My father always said that there was originally a syllable before and more letters after the present

name like many French names. That they belonged to the old French Nobility, and stood very high. That the family were French Huguenots who were driven out of their native country by the "Revocation of the Edict of Nantes". Arriving at Philadelphia when it was all brush shortly after Wm. Penn made his treaty with the Indians.

Sincerely yours, Frank Riblett

DANIEL RIBLET, Sr.

Daniel Riblet (Christian, Bartholomew), born in Pennsylvania, Sept. 16, 1794, was a son of Christian and Christina Magdalene (Shull) Riblet; died Nov, 6, 1866. He was married to Catherine Haflich in 1814. On their way home from church after the ceremony, they counted their money and found they had fifty cents between them with which to start housekeeping. Their home was a combination of store, post-office, school and home. In the winter he taught school and with the aid of the wife and elder children, the store and post-office business was taken care of. He drove to Philadelphia to buy goods for the store and to sell through the country on his way home. During harvest time, he and his wife hired out to cut grain in the fields with a sickle. They lived at Rows Church, Union County, near Selins Grove, Pa.

In 1831, with his wife and nine children and his parents, he moved to Ohio. In moving they had two covered wagons, one a two horse team and used to carry the household goods and the other a one horse team to carry the women and little children. He left his family with friends at Massillon, Ohio, while he and some friends rode on horse back west of Mansfield, in search of good land. He returned for his family and located in section 25, Richland County Sandusky Township, Ohio. Much hard work was involved in building the cabin and all the other work connected, but with determination and perseverance the new home was soon established. The inspiration of starting a hotel came in the following way: some men with a drove of hogs were overtaken in a snow storm toward night and when they came to grandfather's house, they asked to remain over night and to have their hogs fed. Grandfather said that he could not do this as he did not have the room to keep the men or corn to feed the hogs. The drivers insisted they were not able to go on and grandfather must take care of them.

At last he consented to do so, and sent the boys to the nearest neighbors to buy corn. Grandmother and the girls started to get supper for the drovers and made beds for them on the floor. Grandmother and the children slept in the attic. After their breakfast the next morning they paid for their accommodations and care of the hogs; meals were served at the price of a shilling each, and after they were on their way, grandfather sat down and counted his money, which was all in silver and called grandmother's attention to the amount of money he had taken in, and remarked that "this kind of work would pay" and from thence started to develop the hotel business. In a short time an addition was built on the house and a sign erected. This brought him the post office and a stage-coach station. Many travelers on their way to make new homes, stopped here at the hotel over night and they often entertained people of distinction and sometimes they had a group of Indians over night as their guests, and on those occasions the elder boys had to serve as guards during the night; however, they never had any trouble with their Indian guests. Grandfather was fond of hunting and was a good marksman. It greatly pleased the Indians that he would sometimes shoot at the mark with them.

Daniel Riblet was Justice of the Peace for eighteen years and sale's crier for the community, married over a hundred couples and prepared his own marriage certificates. He also sometimes served at children's funerals. His funeral was the largest ever held in Galion, and attended by people in all walks of life, who honored him as their friend. At the time of his death, he had one hundred and thirty-two descendants: Children, grand-children and great-grand-children. It was said he was worth twenty-five thousand dollars, which at that time was considered to amount to great wealth. He had a family of twelve children who all lived to marry and leave the parents' home before any of them died, and most of them lived to pass the three score and ten or the four score mark. Two, David Riblet, and Amelia (Riblet) Knisely, lived to pass their ninetieth birthdays.

Catherine Haflich, was born October 10th, 1797, and was married to Daniel Riblet in 1814. She was a very quiet, modest woman, a hard worker and very economical: a good housewife and mother. She was also a faithful member of the German Lutheran Church. She died April 21st, 1872, and was buried beside her husband, in the Galion Cemetery.

A Brief Sketch of the Riblet Family.

Written in 1902.

Daniel Riblet was a son of Christian Riblet who was born in the year 1761, in Eastern Pennsylvania, he enlisted in the army of the Revolution, or as often called the Continental Army, at the age of 18 years and served till the end of the war, he settled in Pennsylvania. Daniel Riblet, Senior, Christian's son, was born in Union County, or at least came from Selinsgrove when he came West to Ohio, in the year 1831, he had some brothers and sisters, among those who came West were Jacob and Mary, who was a widow of Frederick Steese, Daniel Riblet, with his father, who was aged and infirm, settled on Section 25, in Richland County, and for many years he kept what was called a tavern in those days, but now is called a hotel. He had the stage station where the horses were changed and kept the post office which was called Riblet's, where the people from quite a large community received their mail.

Galion was then a very small village. He was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Catherine Haflich: They had twelve children and all of them grew to maturity. Seven sons and five daughters were: Mary, Ann, Margaret, Mary Magdalene, or Polly as she was mostly called, Charlotte and Amelia. The sons who are still living are: David, aged 77 years and John aged 72 years, David lives in Cleveland, John lives in Middlebury, Indiana. Joel had 4 sons: Henry, who is in the West, Samuel and Lewis, who live in Galion, Frank who died when quite young; he had two daughters, Mary and Harriet. Mary is married to T. B. Burgert, and Harriet to Julius Bracher, and they reside in Galion. Jacob was Major General, Division of Ohio Militia. He had three sons and one daughter: the sons were Chas. Franklin; Harry and Willie, the latter two are dead. The daughter was Angelea, is a widow and lives in Galion. Frank lives in Cleveland. David had one son and four daughters: the son was Charles, and the daughters were: Catherine, Frances, Sarah, and Lovina. Catherine died. Charles, Frances and Sarah live in Cleveland. Lovina is located at Greenwich, Ohio. Daniel had one daughter, Alice, who lives at Kokomo, Ind. John had one son, Ira, who died in infancy, and four daughters, Ida, Ada, Ella and Cora, all were married. Ella died in Michigan. Ida lives in Knox Co.,

Ohio. Ada and Cora live in Indiana, near their father at Middlebury, Ind. Daniel Riblet's surviving daughters Charlotte and Amelia live in Cleveland, and are both widows. Daniel Riblet, Sr. had a brother who came West late in life and located near Mt. Carmel, Illinois. We have not heard from them for years. His sister, Mrs. Steese lived with him for years and died at their residence in Galion.

Daniel Riblet's son, William, had two sons and one daughter, the sons were Clement and Richard, and the daughter was named, Ella. She was married to D. Billow, who is deceased; they live in Galion.

Reuben had three daughters who are married and live at Topeka, Kans.

Daniel Riblet was representative to the State Legislature, in 1839 and 1855, from Richland County, and a Senator from the District in 1854. 1855 he removed to Galion. He acted as Notary Public and being able to write both German and English was instrumental in procuring many legacies from Europe, for persons whose relatives had died in the Fatherland. The daughters were all married: Mary Ann to William Scott; Margaret to C. J. Shull; Mary M. to Chas. Miller; Charlotte to Samuel Shunk; Amelia to Wm. Knisely.

The Galion Ohio Riblets.

History of Richland Co. O., Polk Twp, and Galion. Page 648 C 65: In the log school house on Joel Riblet's lot was organized the first Sabbath School in Galion, by Mrs. Sarah Ruhl and Mrs. Dr. Johnson. Page 649 - From 1856 to 1857 Jacob Riblet was a partner in the District Democate (news paper).

History of Crawford Co., O. Page 455 C. 12: The Central House (tavern) was built by Joel and David Riblet 1851. Little Hotel opposite the former was kept by David and Joel Riblet in 1848.

Page 458 - Daniel Riblet, Sr. gave up the tavern business to his son-in-law, Mr. Samuel Shunk and built a residence in Galion in 1854. He was Post Master under President Pierce and Justice of the peace for 18 years and State Representative for two terms - 1840 to 1844. In 1852 he was elected member of the State Senate. He died in 1865 and was buried in the Cemetery that he donated and named. He was one of the oldest members of the Luthern Church.

WILLIAM RIBLET, County Treasurer; was born in Sandusky Twp., Richland Co. O. in 1835. He attended the common schools of those times. In 1851 he came to Galion, and worked at the tanners trade for 8 years. He then went to Mansfield and clerked in the Post Office until he secured a situation, route agent, from Crestline to Indianapolis, on the "Bee Line", served in this capacity during 1859 and 1860.

In 1861 he went into the shoe business in Galion, and from that to hardware business in 1862, remaining in that line till 1874, when he sold out and went into Real estate.

In 1866 he laid a farm out into town lots; It is now called: William Riblet's Addition to Galion. Mr. Riblet served as Corpor-

ation Treasurer for three years, as Township Treasurer two terms, and was elected Co. Treasurer in 1875.

He was married in 1861 to Caroline H. Edson. They have three children--Ella E., Clement W. and Richard E.

DAVID RIBLET.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 13, 1915--The oldest man connected with baseball has never seen a game.

He is David Riblet of Cleveland. For 32 years he has been present at every game in Cleveland's baseball park, and on such terms of intimacy with the stars of the diamond that they have called him "Dad" and "uncle," but David refers to the stars as "Mr". That's how much of a fan David is.

If Riblet lives until March 13, he will be 90 years old. For the last four years he has been the watchman in the club rooms of the Naps. He says he has reached the century mark.

"But I don't ever expect to see a ball game," adds Riblet. "You see, I'm one of those kind of men who always stick at their post, no matter what is happening nearby them."

For 18 years Riblet operated the turnstiles at the bleacher gate. He says he sometimes grew a bit curious to learn what was happening when the thousands of fans shrieked their applause at some great play, but he never deserted his post of duty.

And now Riblet can't tell a three-base hit from a strike out.

"And I never got a chance even to think about such a thing as baseball until I was past 60 years old" said Riblet.

FRANK CHARLES RIBLET.

He was a son of Jacob Riblet, Galion, O. Frank C. Riblet, of Cleveland, has been a train "butcher," a locomotive fireman, an engineer, a real-estate dealer, a livery-man and a photographer. Recently he drilled an oil well in Texas that is making money for the investors. All his life he has been on the lookout for "opportunities," and at seventy he is still ready to grasp them. "I've learned to act promptly when I see an opportunity," he says, "for the man who always waits for a 'sure thing' seldom gets anywhere." Riblet is a compact, alert, well-preserved man of seventy who could easily pass for fifty. He talks and acts with youthful enthusiasm, and is just as much inclined to look ahead as any young man of twenty-five.

Albert Sidney Gregg -- 1922

HENRY RIBLET.

Henry Riblet was a son of Bartholomew and Catherine (Livegood) Riblet born about 1763. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Record is in Pa. Archives. Fifth series, Vol. 8, P. 280. A general class roll of the third Bat. of militia, Northampton Co., Pa. made for the year 1782. Lt. Col. Nichalos Kerns, second Co. Capt. Jacob Clater. First Class: Private Henry Riblet. Sixth series Vol. 3 P. 434. Muster roll, Capt. J. Duffield Co. Col. Chambers Bat. May 7, 1788: Henry Riblet, private, Franklin Co.

Pa. Bat. not stated. He may have lived in Bedford Co. also a few years, but nothing certain. However, some conclusions are made from the U. S. census. In 1820 he was living in Mahoning Twp. Mercer Co., Pa. He and his wife were 45 years and upwards. One son between 16 and 26 years. (John was born in 1801). One daughter between 10 and 16 years. It appears as tho' his wife died about 1823. In 1830 he was living in Millcreek Twp. Erie Co., Pa. A female is given between 30 and 40, supposed to be a second wife. Two daughters and one son are under five years. Also a female between 20 and 30, supposed to be the daughter by his first wife. In 1832 he was still living in Erie Co. According to his will he bequeathed his personal property to his wife, Mary. Children are not mentioned nor any real estate. He died January 6-16, 1839. In 1840, Millcreek Twp. Erie Co., Pa., Mary Riblet (second wife) is given between 40 and 50 years, a daughter between 15, and 20 years and a son between 10 and 15 years.

JOHN RIBLET.

Nothing more is known of them except his son John who lived in Mahoning Twp. Mercer Co., Pa. in 1830. His home was in Shenango Twp. in 1840, 1850, and 1860. He was living in Hickery Twp. in 1870 with his daughter Angeline and her husband Ab. D. Moore. His wife was Rebecca Long. They had three sons; John, William W. and James C. also six daughters. His death occurred in January 1872.

JOHN RIBLET SON OF JOHN RIBLET, GRANDSON OF HENRY RIBLET.

John Riblet, a pioneer of this section, and widely known and esteemed, died Thursday afternoon about four o'clock, at the family home. It will be remembered that Mr. Riblet has been an invalid for several years. About three years ago, he suffered a stroke of paralysis, and a year later, another, leaving him almost helpless, except for the use of his hands.

Mr. Riblet was born on the farm near which he died, and would have been seventy five years of age had he lived until next April. For a number of years, during his early life, he lived on the Ferver farm south of Pulaski, which was then in Mercer Co. but after he grew up, he moved back again to the old home farm north of Pulaski where all his married life was spent. His first wife was Miss Lavina Love, who died thirteen years ago. Nine children blessed their union, two of whom, Harry and Charles, died in early manhood. The others who survive their father, are J. W. Riblet of Pine Street, James Riblet of West Side. Mrs. Frances Ferver of this city, B. E. Riblet of the Riblet House at Pulaski, Mrs. Samuel Cotton of Pulaski, Mrs. Wallace Hamilton of West Middlesex, and Mrs. H. G. McQuistion of Sharon.

(1848) Nine years ago he was again married, his second wife being Miss Esther Byers, who survives to mourn his loss. For many years, one of the influential and best known farmers of the vicinity, Mr. Riblet was a central figure in the affairs of the village. He was a staunch member of the Presbyterian church and a man of excellent qualities. Possessed of an ample supply of this world's goods, he divided his property some years ago among his children.

Besides his wife and children, he is survived by two brothers, James of Apollo, Pennsylvania, and William of Youngstown, O. and one sister, Mrs. Crane of Erie, Pa.

WILLIAM J. RIBLET.

New Castle, Pa.

Nov. 15, 1943

William J. Riblet, aged 84 years died this morning at his home, 304 Edgewood Avenue, at 12:50 o'clock, following a five year illness of complications resulting from an injury. Mr. Riblet was born on July 13, 1859, son of John and Lavina (Love) Riblet. His first wife, Mrs. Ada Michaels Riblet died in 1912. Mr. Riblet married Eleanora Hunter in 1913, who survives. The deceased was a member of the First U. P. church, and has been a resident of this city for 50 years. He worked for five years at the planing mill of the Citizens Lumber Company, and afterwards was employed at the Clyde Gilfillan Lumber Company for 16 years. Surviving is his wife, Mrs. Eleanora Hunter Riblet; a sister, Mrs. Olive Hamilton, New Wilmington; a nephew, Harry Riblet, this city; three nieces of this city, Mrs. Mayo Porter, Mrs. Leon G. Wetmur, and Mrs. Marjorie Locstetter. Several other nieces and nephews survive out-of-town. Interment will be in Neshannock cemetery, New Wilmington, Pa.

MARY ANN (RIBLET) ZUCK.

Mary Ann (Polly) was a daughter of Bartholomew and Catherine (Livegood) Riblet, born Feb. 13, 1767 and became the wife of John Zuck of Lancaster Co., Pa., where they were married. In 1801 they settled in West Millcreek Twp. Erie Co., Pa. They had a family of eight children and their descendants are numerous. They were devoted members of the German Baptist, or Dunkard, Church. Her death occurred in 1863. She lived to a remarkable age of 96 years, 5 months and 5 days.

ABRAHAM RIBLET.

Abraham was a son of Bartholomew and Catherine (Livegood) Riblet. A family Bible records his birth July 26, 1773. The youngest son of Elizabeth (Riblet) Swartz says that his mother was born, March 20, 1773. Could an error have been made in the dates? Could Abraham have been a twin brother of Elizabeth, if not, most likely he was about two years her senior. Abraham married Catherine Long and they had a family of ten children. Henry was their oldest child. According to the U. S. Census Abraham was living in Hopewell Twp. Bedford Co., Pa. in 1800 and 1810. It is related that he was killed by a tree falling on him, but a similar accident is related concerning Bartholomew, his father. Abraham died rather early in life but not previous to 1812. His widow married a widower, named Dishong. Three of Abraham's daughters married three of Mr. Dishong's sons and one Riblet boy married a sister to these Dishong sons. In 1810 Abraham's mother, Catherine, was living with him.

HENRY RIBLET, Ashland Co. O.

Extracts from a letter from Isaac Riblet, of Mansfield, Ohio, dated April 18, 1905.

I am in my 68th year, being next to the youngest of 13 children. Well, now, I will give you the names of my brothers older than I. Levi, Emanuel, Silvanus, John and this is my name, Isaac. We are the sons of Henry Riblet, the son of Abraham Riblet, of Bedford, Co., Pa. My grandma's given name was Catherine, my father was born July 16, 1792, and was married Feb. 12, 1815, and he came to Ohio in 1821. My mother's maiden name was Rachael Fought, daughter

of John and Elizabeth Fought. Now, I am not able to say how many there was of father's brothers and sisters, but I know that he had a brother John that moved from Bedford Co. to near Johnstown, and he had a son Hiram that was out to see us once, I think, about 1854-55, and his father, Uncle John, was out to see us in 1864 or '5. My father died November 1868, aged 76 and 4 months. And Uncle John was father's youngest brother, he died a few years ago about the age of 91 years.

EMANUEL RIBLET.

Emanuel Riblet, private, Co. D. 25th Reg. O. Vol. Inf. Entered service June 8, 1861, 3 years service. Transferred to 12th Battery O. Light Art. March 12, 1862, Discharged Oct. 9, 1862 on surgeons certificate of disability. Age 35 (1862).

CHARLES N. RIBLET.

Charles N. is a son of Emanuel Riblet, grandson of Henry Riblet.

July 16, 1930

Charles N. Riblet, bank guard, was wounded when he fought a gun battle with robbers who held up two bank messengers at Canton, Ohio, taking 60,000. One of the robbers was killed.

JOHN RIBLETT WAS A SON OF ABRAHAM RIBLET.

Had Passed Fourscore and Ten
Sketch of the Life of One of Cambria's Oldest Citizens.

The venerable John Riblett, Sr. who died on Saturday, December 31, 1899, last, at his home in West Taylor Township, was one of the oldest residents of the county, being within two days of the ninety-first anniversary of his birth at the time of his death. He was a son of Abraham and Catherine (Long) Riblet. The deceased was born in Fulton County, this state, and came to Cambria in 1828 at the age of twenty years. He settled on the place near the Headrick schoolhouse now occupied by Benjamin Frice, and there lived for sixty years, removing at the end of that time to the Old Stephen Gochnour farm, in West Taylor, where his death occurred. Shortly after coming to this section of the state, Mr. Riblett was married to Phoebe Ripple, a member of the well-known Cambria Co. family of that name. To this union were born ten children, of whom the following survive: Hiram, of East Taylor Township; Lewis, of Ohio; Mary, of Jackson Township; Jacob, of Kansas, and Samuel, of Conemaugh. Many descendants of the second, third, and even the fourth generations also survive the venerable gentleman, his grandchildren numbering forty-six, his great grandchildren fifty-eight, and his great-great grandchildren seven. Mr. Riblett's first wife died twenty-two years ago, and six years later, at the age of seventy-five years, he took unto himself another helpmate in the person of Mrs. Kate Wakefield, of Nineveh. She died in November of 1897. From early life Mr. Riblett was a member of the Lutheran Church. His funeral took place on Monday, January 2nd, interment being made in the Union Grave yard at Headrick's.

BARTHOLOMEW RIBLETT WAS A SON OF ABRAHAM & CATHARINE (LONG) RIBLET.

Records of a Notable Cambria County Family, 1888.

The living descendants of Bartholomew and Elizabeth Riblett, of West Taylor Township, Cambria county, number 358 and there are 87

dead. Mr. Riblett died 25 years ago, 1863. Mrs. Riblett is still living, and makes her home with her son William. She is 90 years old, having been born in 1798, and is still in good health, though blind. Her children are William, Frederick, Abraham, Elizabeth (widow of Frederick Yager), and Maria (widow of Abraham Shirey). All live in West Taylor except Mrs. Yager, whose home is in Bolivar. Six children are dead. The living grandchildren number 132, and there are 10 dead. Of the great grandchildren there are 200 living and 67 dead, and of the great-great grandchildren there are 21 living and 4 dead.

A TERRIBLE TROLLEY CAR WRECK -- Saturday morning, August 12, 1916, two cars on the Southern Cambria Railroad collided head on between Echo and Brookdale. The car that left Johnstown at 10 o'clock was crowded with people on their way to Dishong-Riblett reunion at Woodland Park near Ebensburg, Pa. Twenty-six were killed and a great many were injured. Five Dishongs and five Ribblets in one family connection were among those killed.

W. F. RIBBLET, son of Geo. W., g.s. of Wm., g.g.s. of Bartholomew, g.g.g.s. of Abraham.

November 6, 1916

Rev. C. E. Riblet -- Dear Sir: Your letter of Sept. 11, 1916 has been in our possession a long time. This wreck was the most disastrous of its kind in the history of our state. Will get a paper having pictures of many of these people in. The B. F. Ribblet mentioned in this wreck is father of N. B. Ribblet and the same who wrote to you several years ago. I was married to a Ribblet. The loss of her father-mother-sister-in-law, and Frank and Mary Catharine so affected her that she never recovered from the shock. She died Sept. 18, 1916 leaving me with a married daughter, a boy 15, and a girl 9, and a baby girl 16 months old. Our sorrows and bereavements have been many and heavy. I now have a pretty good residence but no home.

As president of the Reunion Association, after referring to the large number of deaths in our ranks during the year in my intended address I had jotted down these words: "But why be sad? Weeping endureth for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. There never was a day so dark that the sun was not shining bright on the other side" I now have them stamped indelibly on the tablets of my memory. They are comforting when we know that all were living for God.

Write again. Goodbye all.

W. F. Ribblet.

LEWIS RIBLETT.

Lewis Riblett, late of Akron, Ohio was born in Cambria Co., Pa. in 1833. He was a son of John and Phoebe (Ripple) Riblett. He served as a private in Co. I 178th O. Vol. Inf. age 31, entered service Sept. 5, 1864.

JACOB RIBLETT

Jacob Riblett was a son of John and Phoebe (Ripple) Riblett. He was born four miles above Johnstown, Pa., in 1837. At age of 19 years he went to Wellsville, Ohio, August 20, 1862 he enlisted in Co. D. 126th O. Vol. Inf. He was wounded in the jaw and escaped from the hospital. Discharged April 27, 1865. After the war in

1868, he moved to Rushville and after residing there two years, he went to Carthage, Ill. From there he moved to Butler Co., Nebr. in Dec. 1872. Twenty years later he came to live at Gem, Kansas. He retired from farming in 1897, and died in 1921. He wrote the following letter:

Gem, Kansas -- April 30, 1905

Mr. C. E. Riblett: I got a letter from you yesterday. Now about the Ribletts, my uncles name was Henry. He lived in O., Bartholomew, Abraham, David and John that was my father's name. They all lived around Johnstown, Pa. My father was the youngest son. I saw him six years ago this next fall. He died in 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ months after I saw him. If he had lived three days longer he would have been 91 years old. My oldest brother's name was Hiram. He lives close to Conemaugh, Pa. and my brother Lewis lives in Wellsville, Ohio, and my brother Samuel lives in Duquesne, Pa. Come and see me sometime. I am an old Union soldier - so no more. Answer.

J. Riblett, Sr.

CHARLES W. RIBLETT.

Jacob Riblett's grandson Charles W. Riblett served in the first world war and in the second world war. He was provost marshall stationed in Denver, Colo. Before and since the second world war he has been on the police force in Los Angeles, California.

ELIZABETH (RIBLET) SWARTZ.

Elizabeth (Riblet) Swartz was born in 1773 and died Nov. 12, 1870. Age 97 years, 7 months, and 23 days. She belonged to the Methodist Church and lived a Christian life. Elizabeth and Henry Swartz had a family of 12 children--8 girls and 4 boys all grew to manhood and womanhood but one which died in infancy. My father said my great grandparents were born in France. John and Christian Riblet were both in the Revolution War. Henry and Elizabeth Swartz moved from Bedford Co., Pa. to Wayne Co., Ohio in 1831.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RIBLETS.

Many of them have been engaged in occupations and professions as farmers, merchants, mechanics, lawyers, educators and ministers. Quite a number have held public offices of various kinds. True patriotism is evident by the fact that in American wars a great many have served from private to the rank of Colonel. Generally most of them affiliate with churches of the various protestant denominations.

Of good qualities found among them that ^{of} the integrity and honesty are the most common. Concerning John Riblet, 1786-1849, Erie, Pa. it was said that his best and most comprehensive eulogy is, that he was the "noblest work of God" - an honest man!

Another example was related by a neighbor of Reuben Riblet, 1836-1909, Galion, Ohio and Topeka, Kansas. He said that Reuben Riblet had agreed to sell a piece of real estate for a certain price but before the deal was closed another man offered him six hundred dollars more for the same property, but Reuben Riblet replied that his word was worth more than six hundred dollars.

Some resemblances are noticed among the women in the features of the mouth and chin. The men are usually short and stout in build and have a broad forehead. It is said however, that those in West Va. are all tall men and blacksmiths by trade.

As to longevity, there were four or more who passed their ninetieth birthday. Elizabeth (Riblet) Swartz was past ninety seven. Mary Ann (Polly Riblet) Zuck was ninety six years, five months and nine days old at her death. The oldest of all was Anna E. Riblet, of Erie, Pa. She reached the remarkable age of ninety nine years, four months and ten days.

NEW YORK CITY AND WEST VIRGINIA RIBLETS

A sketch of their ancestors

See Pa. Archives, second series, Vol. 17, page 285, "Penn. German Pioneers." Vol. I, Page 400, gives the following information. Sept. 13, 1749 the ship Christian, Thomas Brady, Capt. came to Philadelphia, Pa. The passengers were from Wirtemberg, Zweibricken and Alsace. Among them were three males above 16 years of age, who declairing their allegiance to the British crown, signed their names Jacob Riblet, Hans Bader Ribeled (John Peter Riblet) and Abraham Ribellet (Riblet). They settled in Lancaster, Pa. The record does not indicate what relation they were to each other. However, it is concluded that Jacob was the father and that John Peter and Abraham were his sons, likely about 17 and 19 years old. Peter or Abraham most likely was the father of the four brothers, Daniel, Peter, James and Christopher. Abraham and John, Revolutionary soldiers, probably were sons of the other one who was not the father of the four brothers. Peter Riblet, born 1758, Revolutionary soldier had four sons, three of which served in the War of 1812. Daniel in Capt. Robert DeGrusho's Co. N. Y. Artillery also Capt. Valentine Luff's Co. N. Y. Artillery. George Second Lieutenant, and Cornelius were also in Capt. Valentine Luff's Co. N. Y. Artillery. George's widow received a pension.

George W. Riblet, born 1814, was appointed or elected clerk New York City, Nov. 13, 1849.

New York City, March 12, 1905

Mr. C. E. Riblet, Dear Sir:--I have not been able to find all the papers I have with relation to the Riblet family. My great grand father was Peter Riblet, born in Lancaster, Pa. in 1758, was in the War of the Revolution from 1776 until January 1st, 1781, when he was discharged; 7th Regiment of Pa. Line (this recorded, Harrisburg, Pa.) He was married at Lancaster, July 23, 1782. He had three brothers, Daniel, James and Christopher. Daniel settled in Baltimore, James, served in U. S. Navy at the same time, and Christopher went to Ohio after the Revolution and they lost track of him. In regard to their father, my great great grandfather, he came from Germany to settle in Lancaster, Pa., about 1749, and he was a descendant of the French Huguenots. I have always understood the Riblets were originally French, and had to flee from France to Germany on account of being protestants as all of our family from Peter were. I have heard my father say that the Riblets lived on the German side of the Rhine and intermarried again with the French, and all of my family were born in Lancaster, were of German and French descent, speaking German. In my grandfather's family there were four sons--Daniel, George, James and Cornelius. Cornelius went to Boston.

My grandfather, George Riblet, was born in Lancaster, Pa. 1786. He came to Albany, N. Y. then to New York City where he settled.

My father William H., second son of George, was born in New York City, July 17, 1816. I was born in Troy N. Y., Feb. 1st, 1846.

Yours most respectfully,
William V. G. Riblet.

Revolutionary soldiers who lived in Lancaster, Pa.:

DANIEL RIBLET, born 1756. Pa. archives, 5th series, Vol. 7, pages 125, 631, 837, 858, 6th series Vol. 4 page 600, Vol. 13, page 337. ABRAHAM RIBLET, born 1758. 2nd series, vol. 10, pages 733, 754. Vol. 11 page 133. Vol. 13 page 191. 5th series Vol. 3 page 500, 579. Vol. 4 pages 169, 174. Vol. 7 page 1061. Vol. 3 pages 519, 548, and 844.

PETER RIBLET, born 1758. 2nd series Vol. 11 page 140, 5th series Vol. 3 pages 297, 843, 849. Vol. 4 page 221. Vol. 7 page 815. 6th series Vol. 4 page 15.

JOHN RIBLET, born 1754. 5th series Vol. 7 pages 1007, 1017.

THE WEST VIRGINIA BRANCH OF THE RIBLETS.

These Riblets have descended from Daniel Riblet, born in 1756. He was a brother to Peter Riblet progenitor of those living in New York City. Their father was either Abraham or Hans Peter Riblet. Daniel Riblet served in the Revolutionary War. It has been reported that he settled in Baltimore, Md., however, in the U. S. Census of 1790 we find a Daniel Reblett in Philadelphia, Pa.; one male above 16 (himself), one under 16 who could have been his son Daniel, also one female (his wife). There were three or four younger sons and two daughters. Not very much more is known concerning them. His son Daniel lived in Washington Co., Md., perhaps Hagerstown, and served in the War of 1812, a private in Capt. Gerald Stonebreaker's Co. of Inft., thirty second Regt. (Hood's) Maryland militia, from July 25, 1814 to Sept. 22, 1814. He was granted a land warrant, 160 acres, Aug. 5, 1858. He moved from Washington Co., Md. to Smithfield, Fayette Co., Pa. In 1829 he moved to Eldora, Harrison Co., W. Va. He married Charlotte Sees, widow of Samuel Miller. They had six sons and four daughters. His son John S. Riblet was a Baptist minister. Daniel Riblet died about 1869.

Miletus, W. Va. June 29th, 1903

Rev. C. E. Riblet--Dear Brother in Christ and from what you wright I believe a relative in the flesh but I am truly glad for the reception of yours of 23 and theirby opening this correspondence. Now as to my family record I am the son of Daniel Riblett. He died in 1872 aged 85 years. He had a brother John and a Bro. George. He come from Penn. over 70 years ago as I am 70 years old. My grandfathers name was Daniel I think but I am not positive as to that. I had a brother Michael has been dead 2 years. He was 2 years older than I. I have often heard Father say their never was 2 eggs more alike than him and his fathers Brother Johns Mike when they were little. Father in the latter years of his life endeavored to find some of his people but was not successful. I have three brothers living yet. I will see my oldest brother by the time I hear from you again and find out all he knows about it and will look up some of fathers old records and see what I can find as I would be glad to find some of his people now. My impression is that my uncle, John Riblett was your great grandfather. I would be glad to have you pay me a visit if it is possible for

you to do so at your earliest convenience. I am pastor of 4 churches and doing fairly well. Their was 52 conversions in my churches last winter. To God be all the Praise. My prayer is that the Lord's blessing may rest on your work and that you may have many stars in your crown in the coming kingdom and especially on you and all yours. I trust it will be your pleasure to keep up correspondence and that I will hear from you soon again. In my next I will give you my family record. So expecting an early reply I remain your Brother in Christ.

J. S. Riblett

Rev. John S. Riblett died suddenly of heart failure at his nephews near Clarksburg, W. Va., Feb. 12, 1904. He was born June 17th, 1833; aged 70 years, 9 months, 25 days. He professed a hope in Christ at a meeting held by Rev. Henry Longford and was baptized into the fellowship of the Hepzibah Church over 40 years ago. He was licensed to preach by the same church about 30 years ago. He was ordained by a council to the full work of the ministry, called by the Mt. Olive church, near Salem, about 24 years ago. He was pastor of a number of churches in Harrison and adjoining counties. He was pastor of three churches at the time of his death. Liberty in Doddridge Co., for 13 years, Pine Grove, and Enon in Harrison county, for the second time. He had little or no preparation for this great work from the man side. But he loved and studied the Old Book, added to his knowledge and reverence for the Word of God and his faith in the Divine Son of God. He was the humble instrument in burying with Christ in baptism over 1,000 people. He sought not the honor or praise of men, nor financial gain. He preached for the love of the truth and shod horses to pay expenses. He died in the harness. He was a man of strong convictions and of great will power. Altogether his life was a great success. He was twice married. The last wife, Miss Ellen Pepper still survives him, though she has been an invalid for a number of years, and was, at the time of his death, in one of the hospitals in Clarksburg. A service was held at his nephews in Clarksburgh by the writer, assisted by the Rev. R. B. McDanel, on Saturday at 3 p.m. and Sunday morning the remains were taken to Salem and then to the Mt. Olive church and, after sermon by the writer, to a very large congregation, having in its representatives from the churches where he preached, his body was laid beside his first wife. So the Lord is calling his servants to rest from their labors. This leaves three more churches in the Broad Run association pastorless.

L. W. Holden.

A conversation was held with Mrs. Kemper mother of Dr. Clarence M. Kemper former pastor of the First Baptist Church, Denver, Colo. She said she was a United Brethren until she was married, then became a Baptist. Rev. John S. Riblett baptized her and officiated at the wedding of her and her husband, Rev. Kemper. She said Rev. John S. Riblett was her pastor at Mt. Carmel, W. Va. and that he was a great preacher. She lived at Pleasant Pine, W. Va. She didn't know any of Rev. John S. Riblett's relatives--only his second wife.

Mr. C. E. Riblet -- Dear Sir: In answer to yours of Nov. 3rd, 1908 will say that the John S. Riblett of whom you speak is my uncle (my Father's Brother). I am a son of Daniel A. Riblet. His father's name was Daniel Riblet who spelled his name with but one "T". My Grandfather was in the U. S. Army in the War of 1812. Was mustered out and got a land warrant for 80 acres but sold it in 1858 I think. If you will advise me as to the importance of the information you seek I will see the widow of Uncle Johns and see what I can find. I have no doubt but that we are of the same stock of which you inquire. Grandfather came from Pennsylvania to Virginia now W. Va. in the early fifties. I have been very busy of late in the political field. Am elected again to the House of Delegates from Harrison Co.

Yours truly,

Marcus L. Riblet, Limberport, W. Va.

Another Branch Not Descended From Bartholomew Riblet.

FRANCIS RIBLETT.

78 W. Milton Ave.,
Rahway, N. J., Oct. 24, 1905

Mr. C. E. Riblet--Dear Sir: Sometime has elapsed since I received your inquiry concerning the branch of the Riblett family of which I am a humble member. I fear it will be of little interest to you. My paternal grandfather, Fierre Riblet, came over here from France about the year 1805 and settled in Philadelphia, where he remained until his death. To him were born two sons, Pierre and Joseph, both of whom born in Philadelphia, resided in that city until the time of their deaths and both died at the age of 72. Pierre (or Peter) the elder of the two sons, had no children, Joseph had four children born to him, i.e. (1) John Francis, (2) Peter, (3) Joseph and (4) Francis, all of whom, with the exception of Peter, who died in infancy, are living; John F. at the age of 66, Joseph 62, and Francis 60. Passing to the next generation, there is Frances Clark daughter of John F.; William, Joseph, sons; and Leona D., daughter of Joseph; and Henry Weller, son of Francis. There are representatives in still another generation, but, if any bearing the name of Riblett, I do not know of it. Incidentally I am not in very close communication with my brothers or their families, which is not due to any ill feeling between us, but to the simple fact that our lives, from the very earliest, took different paths, owing to the death of our mother, when the youngest of the three was but a week old.

Now you will see that my family is of French origin, while yours I presume, is Dutch. I am not connected with the Riblets in New York (unless my nephew, William is now living there) which from what I have seen of them is my loss rather than theirs. About 35 years ago, I was well acquainted with George W. Riblet, now dead, of whom those living in New York, with the exception noted, are descendants, and a splendid old man he was. In many conversations we had on the subject, he maintained and insisted that I was, as he called it, a "Dutchman", that he knew every one of the family in the country, and it could not be other wise. However, in the fact, he was mistaken. My grandfather was undeniably French. In this connection though, I will relate that some years after George W's. death, one of the members of the Elyria, O., branch of his family of whom I had several times heard, made a call upon me at my office. The visit was a pleasant one, at least to me, but the

strange part of it was that this man, this "Dutchman", from Elyria O., whom no other member of my family had ever met or I had any cognizance of, in height, build, facial features of eyes, nose, mouth, and in manner, was the exact counterpart of my "French" father! I can only conclude that sometime before the emigration to America, there must have been an emigration from Holland to France, or from France to Holland; that at some time not very far back of the year 1800, there was a common origin. I do not know that I have any more information to give. Be assured I wish you success in your undertaking and would be glad to be advised of results.

Very truly yours, Francis Riblett

Rahway, N. J. Nov. 5, 1920

Mr. C. E. Riblet--Dear Mr. Riblet: I have your letter of October 30. (He speaks of his 3 sons) The first Harry died in infancy. The eldest Herbert in his eighteenth year just as he had entered college on his prep. school record. I was favored in both my boys. They were all they should be, and Oh, God! how I miss them. My wife followed Harry to the grave three months after his decease. I am absolutely alone and the home of nearly fifty years is as if it never had existed. I never took any interest in the subject (genealogy) never knew my paternal grandfather and my mother from whom the desire for it would naturally have been acquired, died in my infancy. My father never married again and I suppose the entire time I passed with him subsequently did not exceed three years at different intervals. My two brothers and myself all took to the sea in boyhood. I going on my fifteenth birthday and returning four years later after circum-navigating the globe in longitude, and nearly so in latitude. All three of us started in whalers, my brothers afterward continuing for sometime in the navy. (Grandfather Pierre, I am of the impression also was a seaman before finally settling in this country.)

Pierre Riblet was of French origin. I have a miniature painting of him which would show that he had red hair which he did up "carefully in the queue of his period, that he had the straight nose and scrappy profile, quite common in succeeding generations. From the time that Pierre Riblet settled in Philadelphia, that was the home city of all members of the family until 1875 when I moved to Rahway as my work, and prospects, were in the New York Post Office at which I was later for a number of years Supt. of Mails. (I entered the mail service at the age of nineteen on my return to this country from the "outside," as collector from street letter boxes at Philadelphia and left it after 25 years service in 1889.) In my earlier days in the Railway Mail Service between New York and Washington, probably about 1870, I was brought in contact with one George W. Riblet who had been County Clerk, but was at that time a Transcribing Clerk, whatever that might have been, in the New York P. O. He was an amiable old man and insisted upon claiming me as a relative. He said there was but one family came to this country--he knew of them all and that came from Holland. However, he was wrong. Whatever may have been farther back, my grandfather unquestionably came from France, it may have been, I am not sure, from Marseilles.

The changed spelling of the name to Riblett was made by my father (Joseph) for the reason that he disliked the ordinary anglicization of the French family name, and thought the changed spelling would bring it nearer what it should be. His hopes were realized in but limited measure.

The family name dies out with those now living. Joseph P. has no children, and mine have all gone. The blood will continue but the name of the French branch of what I have reason--physiological reason--to believe was at some period more or less remote, our common family, dies.

Francis Riblett--Nov. 5, 1920

Another Branch of Riblets Not Descended from
Bartholomew Riblet.

CLYDE RIBLEY.

Berkeley 3, Calif. April 17, 1944

Mr. Clarence E. Riblet:-Dear Sir: To the best of my memory the story of the Riblett family begins in France. My Grandfather was a blue-blood who married a peasant girl and had three boys and a girl as additions in France. To get away from the reminder of his marrying into the peasantry, he moved the family to America in the eighteen thirtys. To give the family name the English pronunciation the spelling was changed to Ribley. Here in Endicot Mills, Maryland, my grandfather John and his wife Mary had another child, my father, William Julian. This was around 1841. As my father left home when he was about twelve years old, going to Pennsylvania and working for a Dutch farmer, he was not sure of his birth date. He next served time as a machinist apprentice with a railroad at Fort Wayne, Indiana. He then went into train service as an engine-man. This was followed with Military Rail Service with the Federal Government during the Rebellion. From then to the eighteen seventies he traveled, found a first wife, Sofia, buried her, and traveled some more toward Australia. However, he ended up on the Truckee River owning a saw mill near Truckee, California. He lost the mill by fire and did more traveling. In 1881-2 he was a locomotive engineer on the A.T. & S. F. Ry. at Wallace, New Mexico. In 1885-6 locomotive engineer for Louisville & Nashville Ry., at Nashville and Shrevesport, La. He married Liefa Roena Kellam, my mother, at Shrevesport. I was born in 1889 in San Marcial, New Mexico. I had a brother and two sisters; all died in infancy. My father died in 1906 as a result of the San Francisco earthquake. My father had three brothers and one sister as I have mentioned. The brothers were tall men: from six feet, three inches to six feet, six inches, the sister was ordinary height. One brother's name was John, the sister's name was Frances, Frank for short. I have a picture of Frank. I know the whereabouts of none of the family though there are two Ribletts living in Oakland. I have never communicated with them.

Sincerely, Clyde Ribley

Another Man Not Descended From Bartholomew Riblet.
John Riblet of Napa, California

A Frenchman.

The following information was obtained from Dr. F. Delmont of Union St., San Francisco, California. He said he used to have an old friend, John Riblet, who was born near or, perhaps, in Colmar, Alsace, France, about 1837. He was left an orphan boy, and for a time lived with a man who was good to him. After that he lived with an uncle who mistreated him and he ran away. He served in the French army with Dr. Delmont and was discharged at Massaband about 1862. About two years later he came to the U. S. by way of Africa and Mexico. He lived at Napa, Calif. He married and had two children. Albert was born in 1880 and died when he

was eight years old. Lucy Florence was born in 1886. She lived in Saint Helena, Calif. and later in San Diego. John Riblet was divorced and married again. He was raised a Catholic but afterwards became a Protestant. On June 27, 1893, Dr. F. Delmont loaned him fifty dollars and did not see him any more. His death occurred a few months later. Was buried in a cemetery in San Francisco, Calif.

Here is another branch of Riblets.

THOMAS J. RIBLET.

In June 1928, Mr. Walter R. Riblett, Gem, Kansas, entertained over night a man whose name was Thomas J. Riblet, of Nashua, N.H. He was on his way to Salt Lake City, Utah. He is a wool dyer by trade and was going out there to work. His father's name was Edward J. Riblet, born in Germany and moved to Ireland when he was a young man and was still there in Dublin. He was 99 years old and said he was in good health. His grandfather's name was August Riblet. He said that his father had a very good record of the Riblets in the old country but not in the U. S.

A Branch of Riblets in France

FERNAND RIBLET.

Paris, France, Aug. 24, 1933

Monsieur Riblet: I returned from a journey and found your letter of July 29. How much I ask you to pardon my very involuntary lateness. How surprised I was to find some person of my name in America. I used to be well acquainted with an old unmarried lady, Riblet, at Lergy near Poutoise, but I have not been able to find out anything of the origin of (the) her family. My father, Auguste Riblet said that we could trace our origin from the town of Melun near Paris, France. His father, captain of the guards of Napoleon, was born at the place of Victory in Paris, and died of wounds at Dax department of Landes. He was buried at Ramons under the main altar and above there is a painting of my father "The Christ Legislator". At the present I can tell you this much, from my study of the research that I have undertaken, that my great grand father was a person of consequence under Louis the XVI because he lived at the Petit (little) Trianon, preferred residence of Marie Antoinette, and was there a governor (tutor?). By invitation of the Dauphin his children were raised and educated with the children of the king. In fact, a daughter, Justine Riblet, whose many letters I have, was one of them. After the Revolution I conclude that her father was guillotined at Tere and the children placed among the working people. This one, Justine, was a seamstress or dressmaker in the street of Paix.

Later under Napoleon the queens and ladies of the court of Napoleon wished to pursue the courtly manners and sought those who had learned them under Louis XVI. This Aunt Justine Riblet was observed because of her beautiful manners and sought after by Queen Julie of Spain and she took her as lady in waiting. (Napoleon had placed his brother Joseph on the throne of Spain). At the fall of the Empire the Queen went to Florence, Italy, where she lived in the Palace Lerristtori. At the death of Queen Julie, Justine Riblet called her nephew Auguste Riblet, my father, to live with her and to whom she left all of her goods, or earthly possessions, (the Palace). I live two or three months of the year in Florence and the rest of the year in Paris.

I shall be very happy to give you more details but I will keep up my researches and wait to see if you will receive this letter. To you and your family my respects and salutation, FERNAND RIBLET.

extracts from other letters: Alba his wife wrote that "it is very probable, as you say, that my husband's family and yours had a common ancestor". We have found inscribed in the Archives of the town of Melun near Paris the name of a Riblet, born in 1760. As lady of the court to Queen Julie, Justine Riblet was admitted to the house of Bonapart. Queen Julie willed that Justine Riblet might be interred close to her in the church of The Holy Cross which is the Pantheon in Florence. Where the illustrious men and a great many royal families are entombed. Justine Riblet and her heirs were charged with the keeping of the tomb of Queen Julie.

Fernand's grand father's name was Gilibert Riblet, and his father was Auguste Antoine Riblet born at Dax, France in 1831. He was a famous antiquarian of paintings known in Paris and everywhere. He was acquainted with Henry W. Longfellow, one of our American poets. Fernand said that he has kept his French nationality. Has had three years service in the heavy cavalry and five years in the war from 1914 to 1919 in which I lost an eye and that, with the poison gas and wounds, I have done my duty. I am an artist of paints, an old pupil of Bruno, Academy of Paris. I have sold some of my paintings to the Government. I am an officer of public instruction and member of the Arts and Letters of the French Academy. (There can be only forty members in this division of the French Academy.)

Fernand and his wife have lost two little girls. The oldest one died at the age of five years, second one in infancy, the third is still living. Verses of poetry, dedicated to France, the oldest girl, were written by his aunt Mrs. Melchior, wife of a distinguished writer. Fernand Riblet was born Feb. 6th, 1873 and died Nov. 18, 1945, leaving his wife, Alba, and his daughter France.

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